

MINUTES

**University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee
February 8th, 2018 at 9:00 AM**

Planning, Design and Construction Conference Room 235 Stadium

Members attending:

Gail Hansen De Chapman – Chair - Environmental Horticulture
Donna Bloomfield – PPD – Grounds
Gregg Clarke – PPD- Operations
Linda Dixon – Planning, Design and Construction
Craig Hill – Business Affairs
Jeff Holcomb – University Police Department
Chris Marble - Environmental Horticulture
Betsy Ruff – College of Law

Members not attending:

Harold Barrand - Planning, Design and Construction
Adam Dale - Entomology
Carlos Dognac - Planning, Design and Construction
Lacy Crider-Holtzworth – City of Gainesville
Charles Lockwood - Student
David Steadman – Florida Museum of Natural History
Tom Wichman – PPD- Grounds
Matt Williams – Sustainability
Emma Weeks – Entomology

Also attending:

Erik Lewis – Planning, Design and Construction
Clay Sweger – EDA
Laurie Hall - CHW
Jenn Marvin – Marquis-Halback
Jason O’Brian – Walker Architects

I. Adoption of Amended (UF-629 - Band Practice) Agenda and January Minutes

Motion: **Consensus of the committee to pass adopted agenda and minutes**

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. Major Projects

UAA-43 - Renovation & Addition to Katie Seashole Pressly Softball Stadium David Lyons

David introduced the project team of Joe Walker, architect, and Laurie Hall, landscape architect, and went over the project program. He showed photos of the current stadium and its location, while stating that they were renovating and expanding the facility. Joe went over the renovation and showed conceptual renderings of the proposed facility. He said that most of the tree impacts were due to stormwater issues in the area and that since they were increasing impervious surfaces they would have to add to the system. Joe went over the improvements they were adding to the stadium and the new support building. He said that the athletic director wanted UAA’s facilities to match the campus’ collegiate gothic look. He went over the pedestrian movements around the site and talked about the possibility of a walkway going all around the backside of the stadium field.

Laurie said the site was problematic in that it already had major drainage issues with insufficient storage. She continued that with the addition they would have to add additional stormwater storage on site. Joe said that during hurricane Irma there had been 3 feet of standing water on the field. Laurie said that the area handling the stormwater had been densely planted with Slash Pines after the stadium was built and that they would have to be removed in order to increase the stormwater basin. She said that she had met with Gail Hansen De Chapman on site to go over the significant trees, primarily Live Oaks, which should remain where possible. Laurie showed images and went over proposed road improvements to Museum and Hull roads, which included the idea of a roundabout or turn lanes and what potential tree impacts the project may have.

Gail asked for the number of tree impacts. Laurie said that they are not positive yet of which ones will have to be removed, but that around 100 trees could be removed. Betsy Ruff asked if she knew how many trees would remain. Laurie said that she could get the number later. Gail said that the existing trees had been planted too closely and that there is not much room on the site to avoid impacts.

There was additional discussion about the stormwater structure, tree protections, need for new landscaping, parking issues, and why they were going with collegiate-gothic architecture on this part of campus. There was discussion on how to protect the trees that Gail had identified with Laurie on their site visit and whether the project would need to come back if they were going to need to remove them.

Motion: Betsy Ruff made the motion to approve the project as presented with standard mitigation and the condition that they protect the trees the Chair had identified on the site visit.

Second: Chris Marble

Motion Carried Unanimously

III. Minor Projects

Phi Mu Sorority

Jason O'Brian

Jason, project architect, went over the proposed renovation and addition to the sorority, stating that the additions would be on the north and east sides. He showed renderings of the additions and talked about how they were reworking the formal entrance. Laurie Hall, landscape architect, showed photos and went over the trees they were proposing to remove for the addition, showing photos of Laurel Oaks, Sweetgums and Loblolly Pines. She went over the conceptual landscape design, stating that they would replant as many mitigation trees as will be viable on the site.

Gail Hansen De Chapman asked whether one of the Loblolly Pines needed to be removed, since it was outside of the building footprint. Laurie said that they felt it was too close to the house. Betsy Ruff asked about two other Loblolly Pines being proposed for removal that were also outside of the footprint. Laurie said that they were being proposed for removal due to grading of the site and because of concern about them falling in a storm. Linda Dixon asked why they were removing a Sabal Palm that was outside of the property boundary. Laurie again said it was due to concerns about grading. Erik Lewis noted that the City of Gainesville considers Laurel Oaks, Sweetgums and Loblolly Pines as nuisance trees, since they fall so frequently during storms. Linda suggested that they should coordinate with Grounds on a proper site on campus for re-installation of the tree.

Motion: Betsy Ruff made the motion to approve the project as presented with the condition that the project team coordinate with Grounds on the relocation of the Sabal Palm.

Second: Chris Marble

Motion Carried Unanimously

UF-629 Band Field

Fred Rowe

Fred noted his previous presentation for site approval and said that he was back before the committee since the footprint of the building had shifted. He recapped the project and showed the new footprint on site. He said that a Duke power line easement had necessitated the movement, since the previous footprint had crossed over the easement line.

Gail Hansen De Chapman asked how access was provided to the easement. Fred went over the access and said that there would be additional tree impacts. There was discussion of the Duke easement and stormwater drainage issues. Fred said that the road access easement to the power line easement would require another 5 trees be removed that are in the 5 -8 DBH range. Gail asked if moving the building saved any parking spaces. Clay said two spaces.

Motion: Chris Marble made the motion to approve the project as presented.

Second: Betsy Ruff

Motion Carried Unanimously

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM.