

MINUTES

University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee

June 14th, 2018 at 9:00 AM

Planning, Design and Construction Conference Room 235 Stadium

Members attending:

Donna Bloomfield – PPD – Grounds
Adam Dale - Entomology
Jeff Holcomb – University Police Department
Chris Marble - Environmental Horticulture
Betsy Ruff – College of Law

Members not attending:

Harold Barrant - Planning, Design and Construction
Gail Hansen De Chapman – Chair - Environmental Horticulture
Gregg Clarke – PPD- Operations
Linda Dixon – Planning, Design and Construction
Carlos Dounac - Planning, Design and Construction
Craig Hill – Business Affairs
Charles Lockwood - Student
David Steadman – Florida Museum of Natural History
Tom Wichman – PPD- Grounds
Emma Weeks – Entomology Matt Williams – Sustainability

Also attending:

Erik Lewis – Planning, Design and Construction
Miles Albertson – Planning, Design and Construction
Bill Smith - UAA
E.J. Buldoc - CHW
Laurie Hall – CHW
Adam Gayle – Walker Architects
Craig Tisher – Wilmot Gardens
Baily Hillman – Wilmot Gardens

I. Adoption of Agenda and May Minutes

Motion: Adam Dale made the motion to adopt the agenda and approve the minutes.

Second: Betsy Ruff

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. Major Projects

UAA-41 Baseball

Miles Albertson

Miles said that he was before the committee to seek site approval for the new baseball stadium and introduced E.J. Buldoc from CHW. He went over the existing site and showed the proposed site, explaining that IFAS and UAA had reached an agreement on the land transfer. He said that UAA had hired Populous Architects, one of the premier baseball stadium firms for the design. Miles noted that one of the main reasons for the new location

was that the current orientation was in the wrong direction. Betsy Ruff asked what the correct orientation would be. Miles said that home plate should be on the south side.

E.J. Buldoc introduced Laurie Hall (CHW) and went over the site plan. He said that they were adding 500 parking spaces on the west side of the site, between the proposed stadium and lacrosse stadium. He noted the gas and power line easements that run along the northern portion of the site that severely limit the use and landscaping possibilities along that edge. E. J. said that the proposed site is currently used for research groves and that IFAS was in the process of taking cuttings of the trees to place in new locations. He showed the site divided into 4 areas (sheets) and went over the trees found in each. He said that the largest impacts would be to the densely planted Slash Pine trees that were planted as a wind row and said that they ranged from 6 – 16 DBH. E.J. also said a few Cabbage Palms and Laurels Oaks would need to be removed. He showed a draft conceptual landscape plan and said that they would be back with a more detailed plan at the next two presentations to the committee.

Betsy Ruff asked about a few of the deciduous trees that were called out in the landscape plan, Tulip Popular and Winged Elm. E.J. said that they use them in certain circumstances when they need a more upright tree in limited planting spaces. Betsy asked whether there was a wet area given that they were suggesting Cypress trees. E.J. said there were no wetlands on site and noted that the stormwater would be placed under the parking lot. He said that Cypress trees can take upland conditions. Betsy suggested that they include the Hat Palm (Puerto Rican Cabbage Palm) like had been used at the O’Connell Center. Betsy also asked about Canary Island Date Palms. E. J. said they do grow well here, but are expensive. Adam Dale asked whether they were considering putting in structured soils in the parking lot to help the new trees in an adverse site condition. E.J. said that they would be bringing new soil, but not structured. Erik Lewis asked whether Adam had new studies on the use of structured soils to share with the committee and noted that they had been used for the Live Oaks as part of the sky box addition to the stadium with limited success (also noting that the soils had been a very expensive part of the tree mitigation package). Jeff Holcomb asked if they were trying to coordinate the design between baseball and the softball projects. Bill Smith said that they were and noted that the design team was the same on both projects.

Motion: Adam Dale made the motion to approve as presented with the encouragement that they incorporate the palms that Betsy had mentioned (Puerto Rican Cabbage Palm (Hat Palm) and Canary Island Date Palms) and that they use proper soils for the new trees.

Second: Betsy Ruff

Motion Carried Unanimously

III. Other Business

Wilmot Gardens

Dr. Craig Tisher

Dr. Tisher introduced himself and Baily Hillman and gave an overview of their work at Wilmot Gardens. Dr. Tisher said that they would be planting 100 fully grown camellias at the garden as part of the 675 that the University had recently acquired. He said that that in order to facilitate the transplanting they needed to take out 15 trees. He showed the location and photos of the trees and went over their sizes. Betsy Ruff said that she was supportive of their work at the gardens and supported the removal of the trees.

Motion: Betsy Ruff made the motion to approve the tree removal with the condition that they minimize impacts to those remaining.

Second: Adam Dale

Motion Carried Unanimously

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 AM.