

**Landscape and Arboretum Committee
Office of the Executive Vice President
University of Virginia**

Minutes of the November 14, 2007 meeting

Submitted on behalf of the committee by
Eric Nagy, Chair

The committee met in 489 Newcomb Hall from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Present were committee members Keith Crawford, Brian Hogg, Mary Hughes, Marshall Hunt, Jay Klingel, Susan McKinnon, Elizabeth Meyer, Jim Murray, Eric Nagy, Betty Sapir, Carl Trindle. Also in attendance were Helen Wilson of the Office of the Architect, Joe Celentano of VMDO Architects, John Meaney of Siteworks (Landscape architects), and Connie Warnock of the Office of the Architect.

CALL TO ORDER 9:05 a.m.

- Introduction

Introduction of all committee members and guests. Nagy welcomed new members and gave a brief overview of committee charge, process and responsibilities. Referred members to committee web site (some printouts from web site circulated) for more information and committee activities.

- Update

Hughes presented a brief introduction and update to all ongoing and recently complete projects supported by the committee. These included Mad Bowl, Dell Banks, Newcomb Road, and Engineers Way projects. Hughes also reminded the committee of the process for project review by the committee. Projects will typically be presented to the committee twice – once as a “site concept,” and once to review final or near-final plans. Further review will occur if there are significant design changes or ones that impact landscape matters.

- Three Concept Site Presentations

Joe Celentano of VMDO Architects, John Meaney of Siteworks (Landscape architects), and Connie Warnock of the Office of the Architect presented three site concepts to the committee for initial comment and review. Two proposals were for renovations to the sports complex on Massie and Copeley Roads across from University Hall. Warnock introduced the scope of the concept presentation. Celentano reviewed the need for better public access, service, and centralized ticketing at all four fields in the complex. Proposed changes would improve interior circulation and landscape to soccer and baseball facilities. The third site concept presented was for softball field renovations in “The Park” at the end of Massie Road.

Klockner building plan - Celentano presented the proposed addition to the Klockner (soccer/lacrosse) stadium first. A new building addition is to be added to the street side

of stadium outside of the bowl at mid-field. Purpose of the addition is to better serve players and recruiters. Addition would also provide a second public entrance for spectators. Should make sure addition is obvious as an entrance and is inviting to the public. Concern expressed about the “coherence” of Massie Road. Discussion - The side walk is not well planned or planted. Massie needs a larger “vision.” Need expressed to encourage/advertise the second entry. Discussion - Need to avoid elite vs. non-elite entrances. How to manage the two entrances? Concern about how the second entrance would be managed. Signs may be important as far away as corner of Massie and Copeley. Question about student traffic patterns and access to the improved sites. Need to generally address improvements / plantings on Massie was raised again. What tree removal will be needed? No details are available to this time. But some trees will need to be removed, and some added. Committee will see those plans in the future.

Davenport grandstand expansion– Plan presented to extend right-field grandstand seating area and build out support space under stadium. Fencing will be added along interior edge. Concern about view shed from Old Ivy Road, which is already a problem. General discussion indicated this was a real issue, and one that had not been fully addressed in original construction. Will access to seating be increased? No plan in place to change access, which is now from the other side of the field.

Softball Field renovation – Proposal to upgrade structures and re-excavate site of competition softball field located on Massie Road. Field site is an enclosed bowl. Need to re-excavate site and improve grade of entire field. Concerns raised about new and greater drainage needs for enclosed field bowl, and how it would impact stream directly adjacent to site. What set-back is required? Need for explicit drainage plan. The separate concern was raised of how the creek would be protected during construction and excavation? Slight increase (250) in seating is planned, as well as expectation of 1,200 additional non-seated visitors. Question raised as to whether facilities can accommodate expected numbers. No new parking is planned.

Discussion ensued over how to approve plans and with what stipulations.

MOTION by McKinnon to approve all three site concept plans with the provision that all suggestions, questions, and concerns raised in the meeting be explicitly addressed and that the plans be presented to the committee again for review. SECOND by Hughes. DISCUSSION, none. APPROVAL was unanimous with no abstentions.

- New Business

Hughes raised new and fast-track effort to add three to four new science buildings off Whitehead Road. There will be a design competition for landscape redevelopment. Process will move very rapidly in coming months. “Request for Qualifications” document distributed to committee members. Expect site and design guidelines discussion for two buildings in December. Issue raised of A&L representation in design process.

MOTION by McKinnon to request appointment of at least one A&L committee member to Office of the Architect (OA) Selection committee. FRIENDLY AMMENDMENT by Murray to also request committee representation on the OA Screening committee. SECOND by Trindle. DISCUSSION, none. APPROVAL was unanimous with no abstentions.

ADJOURN 10:59 a.m.

Corrected and approved 12 Dec. 2007, ESN