MEMORANDUM

TO: The Buildings and Grounds Committee:

The Honorable Lewis F. Payne, Chair
Daniel R. Abramson
The Honorable Alan A. Diamonstein
Susan Y. Dorsey
Helen E. Dragas
Thomas F. Farrell, II
Adom Getachew
Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr.
Don R. Pippin
Michael Turner, Consulting Member
W. Heywood Fralin, Ex Officio

and

The Remaining Members of the Board:

A. Macdonald Caputo  Austin Ligon
Robert D. Hardie  Warren M. Thompson
Glynn D. Key  E. Darracott Vaughan, Jr., M.D.
John O. Wynne

FROM: Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr.

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Meeting of the Buildings and Grounds Committee on December 11, 2008

The Buildings and Grounds Committee of the Board of Visitors of the University of Virginia met, in Open Session, in the Lower East Oval Room of the Rotunda at 2:00 p.m., Thursday, December 11, 2008; The Hon. Lewis F. Payne, Chair, presided.

Ms. Adom Getachew and W. Heywood Fralin, Rector, were present.

Participating by telephone were Daniel R. Abramson, A. Macdonald Caputo, The Hon. Alan A. Diamonstein, Ms. Susan Y.

Dorsey, Ms. Helen E. Dragas, Vincent J. Mastracco, Jr., and Don R. Pippin.

Michael A. Turner, Consulting Member from the Council of Foundations, also participated by telephone.

Robert D. Hardie was present as well.

Also present were Leonard W. Sandridge, Alexander G. Gilliam, Jr., Ms. Colette Sheehy, David Neuman, and Ms. Jeanne Flippo Bailes.

The Chair opened the meeting and asked Ms. Sheehy, Vice President for Management and Budget, to present the Agenda.

The first Agenda item required action by the Committee.

ACTION ITEM: Approval of Project Budget Increase, Moser Radiation Therapy Center Addition

Ms. Sheehy reminded the Committee that the Board in February approved an addition to the Moser Radiation Therapy Center on the Ivy Road at a budget of $2,507,000. It is proposed to increase the size of the Addition, which would require increasing the budget by $500,000 for a total budget of $3,007,000.

On motion, the Committee approved the following resolution and recommended it to the full Board for approval:

APPROVAL OF PROJECT BUDGET INCREASE, MOSER RADIATION THERAPY CENTER ADDITION

RESOLVED that the addition of 625 gsf to the current 3,000 gsf project scope and the budget increase of $500,000, bringing the total budget for the Moser Radiation Therapy Center Addition to $3,007,000, is approved.

The next two items, Ms. Sheehy explained, were design reviews of building projects at the University and at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise. They were being presented to the Committee under the new procedures instituted to involve the Committee more fully in the design process. No action, she said, was required at this time: the projects will be brought forward for approval later, after the Committee has had time to contemplate the proposed designs and suggest changes.
Design Review, Alderman Road Housing, Phase II and Student Commons Building

Ms. Sheehy asked Mr. Neuman, Architect for the University, to present the projects.

Mr. Neuman described the projects in some detail. He reminded the Committee that the Board of Visitors in April, 2005, endorsed a plan to replace the existing Alderman Road dormitories with new housing – the present buildings will be torn down in seriatim as the replacement structures are opened. Building 1 of Phase II of the project was approved by the Board last February; Building 2 will be presented to the Board in February 2009 along with the 2010-2020 Update of the Major Capital Projects Program.

The architectural firm Ayers Saint Gross of Baltimore, working with Mr. Neuman and representatives from Housing, Residence Life, and Facilities Management, have developed an initial schematic design, which Mr. Neuman described in some detail. There were questions about the height of the proposed building – six stories; Mr. Abramson commented that while he approves the design, the Committee should understand that it will be a large building – which Ms. Sheehy explained by saying that if dormitories have six floors, then it may be possible to build one less residence hall.

The Student Commons Building is to serve the new grouping of the Alderman Road Houses; it will provide meeting and social space.

Design Review, Multi-Purpose Center, The University of Virginia’s College at Wise

The Multi-purpose Center at Wise is a $30 million project, designed to meet the needs of both the College and the community. It is to be built on a level area, above the football stadium, and will take advantage of a beautiful view. The design, Mr. Neuman explained, is compatible with the general architectural style at Wise.

The concept, site and design guidelines were approved last June and the design architects, VMDO Architects of Charlottesville, were approved in October.

Report by the Vice President for Management and Budget

Ms. Sheehy reviewed the new process for project design reviews, of which this meeting was a part. Mr. Diamonstein asked if a basic plan for all new construction shouldn’t be established. Mr. Sandridge replied that the guidelines embodied
in the new process would cover such things as questions of density – proper land use is important – as well as standards on such things as roof lines and fenestration. He commented that several Members of the Committee have said there should be a set of general givens in the guidelines.

Mr. Sandridge added that Mr. Turner has discussed the new design review process with the Council of Foundations.

The Rector commented that he was comfortable with the new guidelines; he cautioned against over regulation and thus tying down too tightly the design creativity of architects engaged for University projects.

Report by the Architect for the University

Mr. Neuman then gave the Committee an update on two buildings in the "Science Initiative Project:" the new ITE building of the School of Engineering and the research building for the College, both of which had been discussed at the two previous meetings of the Committee in October. He emphasized modifications that have been made in the design of both structures to take into account their relationship to each other and to their surroundings.

He also reported on several completed projects undertaken under the aegis of the Grounds Improvement Fund: the removal of the unsightly parking lot in front of the Sigma Nu House; the relocation of the bus stop in the southbound lane of Rugby Road from the Beta Bridge to a point in front of the old Faculty Apartments; the replacement of sidewalks on the northeast side of the Rotunda with brick walks; the reworking of the Darden Court at Thornton Hall; and the renovations in Poe Alley between West Lawn and the West Range.

Mr. Pippin noted that Mr. Farrell and Mr. Abramson had visited Wise the previous week and had seen the site of the Multi-purpose Center.

On motion, the meeting was adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

AGG:lah
These minutes have been posted to the University of Virginia’s Board of Visitors website.
http://www.virginia.edu/bov/buildingsgroundsminutes.html