

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee

Minutes March 3, 2008

(As approved March 31, 2008)

Present:

Kris Ackerbauer, Ann Burgess, Ray Guries, Lars Higdon, Zach Hirschtritt Janet Silbernagel, Don Waller

Also present:

Gary Brown (FPM), Cathie Bruner (Preserve staff), Daniel Einstein (Preserve staff), Rhonda James (FPM), Roma Lenahan (Friends of Preserve)

Introductions:

Ray welcomed attendees, followed by brief introductions of all present.

Minutes:

The minutes from the January 28, 2008 committee meeting was unanimously approved without modification. Approved agenda and minutes are archived at the Preserve's library webpage.

Public Comment Period:

There were no public comments.

Updates:

Gary Brown, director of the Facilities Planning & Management campus planning and landscape architecture department, provided a detailed overview of future construction projects adjacent to, or within, the Preserve. A brief summary:

Education building addition & renovation

A 5-story addition on the north side of the existing building, with single level of underground parking is at the 40% planning stage. The roof over the parking area is planned as a green roof, plaza deck with plantings to reduce stormwater impacts, visually screen the parking and provide a functional outdoor area. The landscape plans also visually ties across Observatory Drive to Muir Knoll. Completion projected is scheduled for 2010.

Robert E. Gard Storyteller's Circle

This Preserve project on Muir Knoll will replace the current overlook with a new limestone block seating area. Stone steps will connect the knoll with the lakeshore path. The concrete reservoir will be demolished to below grade and new landscaping installed. Representatives from the Class of 1961 (donors for the current overlook structure) have been contacted. They do not oppose the planned project. Final commitment documents from the donor should be secured soon. Completion by fall 2009 is possible.

Lakeshore housing project

A proposed residence hall and dining facility is planned for an area to the south of Friedrich Hall and east of Willow Creek Woods. This 5-story structure would provide approximately 500 beds and a food service operation. Six of the existing twelve tennis courts currently located at this site would be moved to the southeast of Cole Hall. A new service drive is planned that would extend from the west side of the structure and run south to connect with Observatory Drive. A loading dock would face Willow Creek Woods area near the current "putting green." Pending approval of funding, this project might be completed by 2012.

Natatorium master plan

A renovation to the existing Natatorium and an addition on the east side of the building are planned. If student funding is approved, it is possible that construction would be completed by 2012.

Ebling project at Picnic Point

This Preserve project at the tip of Picnic Point will create a council ring seating area with nearby stone steps reaching to the water's edge. An advisory group of committee members will be formed to work with the design consultants, once final donor commitments are in hand. Completion in the summer 2009 is possible.

Preserve signage project

The Preserve has contracted the services of ZD Studios to develop prototype designs and fabrication specifications for a suite of signs to include: a wayfinding sign; an information kiosk; an entrance/gateway sign; and an interpretive sign. Rhonda James, an FPM landscape architect will coordinate the project. She will provide an update on the project at the March 31 committee meeting.

Athletics' hammer throw

FPM is currently awaiting funding decisions from the athletics department regarding an upgrade to the current hammer throw area located near the southeast corner of the Class of 1918 Marsh, west of Goodman Diamond softball field. The project would improve water drainage from the practice surface.

Snow pile assessment

FPM is working with an engineering consultant to explore options for improving control of sediments in the meltwater produced by the snow storage pile located on the south side of the Class of 1918 Marsh. Relocation of the snow storage area to the north of the marsh will be explored. Recommendations will be presented to the committee. Completion is possible by fall 2008.

Adjournment

Submitted by Daniel Einstein