

MINUTES
Preservation of Historic Buildings & Sites Committee
June 17th, 2025, at 2:00 PM
HYBRID MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ann Baird – Associate University Librarian, Libraries
Linda Dixon – Director of Planning, Planning, Design & Construction
Tyler Rodibaugh – Director, Facilities Operations
Samir Shah – Assistant Professor, Vascular Surgery
Joe Aufmuth – Associate University Librarian, UF Libraries
Clarissa Carr – Research Assistant Professor, DCP Interior Design

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Fernando Alferez – Assistant Professor, Citrus Horticulture
Daniel Dickrell - Associate Instructional Professor, Student Programs
Chad Doering – Director of Facilities, Housing & Residence Education
Cydney McGlothlin – AVP, Planning, Design & Construction
Francisco Oquendo – Asst. Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Cleary Larkin – Acting Dir., Dept. of Urban and Regional Planning
Brandi Renton – Associate Vice President, Business Affairs
Amy Martinelli – Assistant Instructional Professor, Dial Center
Kara Casy – Instructional Assistant Professor, Plant Sci & Gen Teaching
Brent Carr – Associate Professor, Psychiatry
Lori Dassa – Director, Clinical Experiences and Partnerships
Sarah Coates – University Archivist, Special Collections, UF Libraries
Aimee Bourassa – Lecturer, CLAS Academic Advising
Carolyn Kelly – Senior Lecturer, University Writing Program
Aaron Amster – Student
Shawn Kapersaud – Student

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rick Falcon – Planning, Design & Construction
Adam Hall – Planning, Design & Construction
David Wood – Planning, Design & Construction
Joe Walker – Walker Architects
Ross McClellan – Ramsa
Arianne Kouri – Ramsa

I. ADOPTION OF AGENDA and APRIL 2025 MINUTES

Motion: Joe Aufmuth made a motion to adopt the agenda and approve the April minutes.

Second: Clarissa Carr

Motions Passed Unanimously

II. MAJOR PROJECTS

UF- 689 – Hamilton Center

Presenting: David Wood

David presented the Hamilton Center project, which involves replacing and rehabilitating parts of the existing infirmary building. Joe Walker provided a project overview, highlighting the scope of work and the need to maintain the historic character of the building, particularly the east facade. He explained that the design team, Ramsa, is working to preserve the building's historical character by following Secretary of the Interior Standards and considering its context within the campus's historic district. The project aims to create a more prominent entrance by adjusting the site's grade and landscaping, while ensuring the building remains watertight and accessible.

Joe discussed the restoration project more in depth, focusing on exterior repairs and replacements. The team plans to replace the clay tile roof and some fenestration while maintaining the building's historic character through sash replacement and matching original materials where possible. The interior will be reconfigured to accommodate classroom and office functions, with a new basement entrance being added. The project aims to balance preservation with modern needs, following the Secretary of Interior Standards and using examples from other campus buildings like Norman Hall for guidance.

Joe explained the design changes for the building's renovation, focusing on a new accessible entrance and removal of a 1970's addition. He described a new ground-level entry with a ramp and two courtyards, replacing the previous stairs. Joe clarified that the building now has only one central stair inside, accessible from the first floor, and removed two side stairs to simplify access. Ann asked about the width between the building and retaining wall, which Ross confirmed was about 40 feet.

Joe elaborated on modifications to the inside of the building, focusing on removing interior walls and creating a more open lobby space while preserving the historic exterior stone arch and carved infirmary text. He proposed removing the existing vestibule and replacing the exterior door with glazing, with Ross explaining that these changes would better fit the project's needs since the primary entry would now be at a lower level. They also mentioned plans to relocate a bronze plaque identifying the architect and construction date to another location in the building.

The committee discussed architectural plans, focusing on display options for archival materials and historical information. They reviewed the entryway designs, including the removal of some exterior doors and the potential for a covered entryway. The conversation also covered parking considerations, with Joe explaining that only three parking spaces would be affected and that transportation officials were reviewing the situation. Ann inquired about the building's exterior design, particularly the west side, and Joe clarified that the entrance would be distinct but compatible with the existing building style.

The committee reviewed and approved design development plans for a building project, noting the removal of stairs and vestibule walls as modifications. The committee expressed appreciation for the detailed presentation and discussed how the completed building would be used once the adjacent Fletcher project is finished.

Motion: Joe Aufmuth made a motion to approve the project as presented including the removal of stairs and vestibule walls as modifications to the front entrance of the building.

Second: Samir Shah

Motion Passed Unanimously

III. OTHER BUSINESS

Chair Report

Ann Baird

No chair report

The election for Committee Chair and Vice Chair was briefly discussed. The meeting had low attendance with only three voting members present, leading to the idea of postponing elections until the next meeting when more members could participate.

Joe made a motion to table the Chair and Vice Chair election for the next meeting with Samir Shah seconding said motion.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 2:54 PM.