

MINUTES

University Lakes, Vegetation and Landscape Committee

December 4th, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Planning, Design & Construction Division, 245 Gale Lemerand Drive

Members attending:

Gail Hansen De Chapman – Environmental Horticulture – Chair
Jason Kruse – Associate Professor, Environmental Horticulture
Jordan Benton – Assistant Director of Business Operations, Facility Services
Latrell Simmons – UFPD, Major, Support Services Division & Community Service Division
Lisa Strange – Extension Agent II
Nancy Chrystal-Green – Assistant Vice President, Student Engagement
Richard Dolson – Student
Tom Schlick – Assistant Director of Grounds, Facilities Services

Members not attending:

Adam Dale – Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department
Asena Goren – Post Doctoral Associate
Brandi Renton – Vice President of Business Affairs
Colt Little – Vice President for Construction, Facilities, and Real Estate
Cydney McGlothlin – University Architect, Planning, Design & Construction
David Conser – City Arborist, City of Gainesville
Gerardo Nunez – Assistant Professor, Horticultural Services
Grace John – Assistant Professor, Biology
Gregg Clarke – Director of Operations, Facilities Services
Linda Dixon – Director, Planning, Design & Construction
Matthew Webster – Interim Assistant Vice President, Planning, Design & Construction
Monika Oli – Master Lecturer, Microbiology and Cell Science
Ryan Klein – Assistant Professor, Environmental Horticulture

Visitors attending:

Charles Kammin – Utilities & Energy Services
Jim Vignola – Planning, Design & Construction
Keith Humphreys – Planning, Design & Construction
Laura Scott – Planning, Design & Construction
Laurie Hall – NV5
Leslie Cliffe – Bora
Milo Zapata – Planning, Design & Construction
Noelle Watts – College of Dentistry
Rick Falcon – Planning, Design & Construction
Rob Drumheller Jr. – Utilities Services
Tom Wannan – HuntonBrady
Trent Weller – Music Facilities Operations

I. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

Gail Hansen De Chapman noted that the Grounds Report should be added under Other Business.

Motion: Jason Kruse made a motion to adopt the agenda with the above addition and approve the November minutes.

Second: Lisa Strange

Motion Carried Unanimously

II. MINOR PROJECTS

None.

Motion: N/A

Second: N/A

III. MAJOR PROJECTS

UF-318 Dental Science Building
PRESENTING: Jim Vignola and Laurie Hall

DISCUSSION: Jim Vignola and Laurie Hall presented the design development phase submission for the new addition to the Dental Science Tower. They reviewed details of the project site, parking, grade changes, tree removal and tree planting. Site improvements include a new entrance and drop-off area serving UF Health Shands Hospital and the Dental Science Building. Laurie highlighted a plan to plant a sand live oak and explained that utilities along Archer Road limit what can be planted there. The project will adhere to landscape master plan standards and pursue a Green Globe 3-globe certification, which is equivalent to LEED Gold.

Laurie presented renderings of proposed landscaped areas, including existing trees, retaining walls, and plantings along Center Drive and Archer Road. The group discussed pedestrian improvements, including new walkways and safety enhancements. Laurie noted that requirements for wayfinding signs have been incorporated into the plans.

The committee discussed adding trees along Archer Road. Laurie explained that utility constraints make adding large trees challenging, but that they will continue to evaluate opportunities to plant smaller trees. She added that mitigation funds will be used to purchase additional trees and plants for other campus locations.

Motion: Jason Kruse made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve as presented.

Second: Nancy Chrystal-Green

Motion Carried Unanimously

UF-672 New Music Building

PRESENTING: Milo Zapata and Laurie Hall

DISCUSSION: Milo Zapata and Laurie Hall presented the project plan for the new music building. The project is located at the corner of Stadium and Newell roads and includes a 39,000 square-foot addition featuring a 500-seat concert hall. The committee had previously reviewed the project during the schematic design stage and passed a motion to approve.

Laurie showed the updated site plan which had only minor changes from that previously presented. She reviewed landscaping which will be consistent with the landscape master plan. Society garlic will be used, but not in seating areas due to its strong fragrance. Laurie clarified that plants are not finalized at the design stage. The project will have Green Globe certification. Laurie detailed the current state of the site, discussing options for adding trees within existing utilities and space constraints.

The committee discussed the challenges of planting palms on campus due to their susceptibility to disease and space constraints. Tom explained that crepe myrtles are currently the preferred option for tight spaces as their roots do not lift concrete or asphalt or impinge on utilities.

Motion: Jason Kruse made a motion to forward the project to the VP for Construction, Facilities and Real Estate with a recommendation to approve as presented.

Second: Lisa Strange

Motion Carried Unanimously

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

Grounds Report

PRESENTING: Jordan Benton

Jordan presented the grounds report, highlighting the removal of cabbage palms and other diseased trees, and showcasing campus beautification efforts around Rinker Hall, Gator Pond and DCP Collaboratory, and Tigert Circle as well as newly painted orange and blue planters and finishing touches on the Weil Hall project.

V. Chair's Report _____ Gail Hansen de Chapman

Gail reminded committee members not to share the meeting Zoom link, noting that only committee members, liaisons, project management staff and contractors are allowed to attend the Zoom meeting and that members of the public can attend meetings in person in the stadium conference room. She clarified that in the past committee members were told that they are not allowed to discuss projects with each other outside of this meeting, but that this is an advisory

committee, not a decision-making committee, and as such does not fall under the Sunshine law.

Lastly, Gail announced that she will step down as chair after 13 years, with Adam Dale set to take over as Chair in January. Gail will continue to attend meetings as a committee member. Because the regularly scheduled meeting day lands on New Year's Day, Gail will check on an alternative meeting date for the January meeting and inform committee members.

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 9:50 AM.