



PLANNING COMMITTEE REVIEW MEETING/August 12, 2008

MEETING START TIME: 1:00 p.m.
MEETING END TIME: 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Kathleen Enz Finken Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Bob Hetzel Vice Chancellor - Administration & Finance
Matt Lewis Director of Campus Planning and Facilities Management
Paula Knudson Student Development/Academic Services – Dean
Billy Clow College of Liberal Studies – Interim Associate Dean
Karen McLean College of Science & Health – Interim Dean
Bruce May College of Business Administration - Interim Dean
Ruthann Benson College of Liberal Studies – Interim Dean
Karla Stanek Director of Career Services
Jennifer O’Neill Student / Environmental Council
Larry Earll DSF / Project Manager
Valentine J. Schute, Jr. River Architects
Mike Adler River Architects
Nate Novak JJR

MEETING NOTES:

1. The following information was distributed at the meeting for review and discussion:
 - a) Meeting Agenda
 - b) Planning Committee Meeting Notes dated July 18, 2008
2. Jennifer O’Neill introduced herself to the committee. She is a student representative with the Environmental Council.
3. Val Schute reviewed the meeting notes dated July 18, 2008. Notes were approved.
4. Nate Novak reviewed the current site plan and features including bike parking, entry plazas, rain gardens, and circulation. The following items were discussed:
 - a) DSF asked if moped parking was accommodated or needed. Currently no moped parking is planned. UWL doesn’t feel it is necessary. There are currently spaces available in Lot 10.
 - b) Bicycle parking: No comments.
 - c) Site walls/seat walls at entries presented as precast to match the building. UWL would like something other than precast. They feel precast mars too easily and might not have as refined appearance as desired. River Architects suggested brick façade with precast cap. JJR will explore options.

- d) Summary: Overall Little response to site design is positive.
5. Nate reviewed the details of the south courtyard. The following items were discussed:
- a) What is the program/use for this space? It is non-programmed since it was not in the scope. UWL is having a hard time understanding the space (size) and what options they have or how they would use the space. – by the end of the meeting, the feeling was that this is an informal space with some permanent seating and some moveable seating and tables. Used primarily for informal gatherings, study area, meeting place for friends, etc. Not a main entry to the building and most likely not for formal gatherings or presentations. Though it could be used for these on occasion as long as some of the seating and tables can be moved (with truck or machine).
 - b) River Architects will add it to their 3D SketchUp model to help illustrate the concepts for feedback.
 - c) Depressed planters need some sort of edge protection. At least a curb. Possibly permanent seat wall on some sides.
 - d) DSF suggested making west planter flush with grade and possibly tree grates which would make this area more flexible.
 - e) Another suggestion was to move planters to east and west or south sides of plaza. East and west is too close to the building to infiltrate water. South might be an option but it leaves the plaza barren and exposed to sun and heat.
6. Nate reviewed the details of the third floor roof terrace. The following items were discussed.
- a) Omit bench along parapet wall.
 - b) Remove planter from center of space to open it up and create a more flexible environment, provide more opportunity for moveable site furnishings.
 - c) Greenscreen vertical elements: mixed reviews. Not so worried about students viewing into classrooms anymore.
 - d) Large set in place planters may be an option vs. built in permanent structures. Though the likely hood of them moving these planters around for flexibility is highly unlikely.
 - e) Seasonal aesthetic is a concern. Students are predominantly viewing and using this space in the fall, winter and spring seasons.
 - f) Sculpture area? UWL
 - g) Alternate Bid item – what are the cost differences between.
 - i. Full build out
 - ii. Stone ballast
 - iii. Sedum trays
7. Nate reviewed the details of the rain gardens. The following items were discussed.
- a) General overview of landscape treatment and design: JJR's focus is to keep them simple. Extremely limited plant palate, don't want these areas to be perceived as "weedy" and unkept. Simple for design and for maintenance personnel.
 - b) Overall: Ok

8. Nate reviewed the details of stormwater management. The following items were discussed.
 - a) Review of slide. General discussion of what the current rain gardens can handle based on “average” storm events.
 - b) No comments.
9. Nate reviewed the site amenities. The following items were discussed.
 - a) New campus lights: OK
 - b) Benches, tables, receptacles, etc. should all match the master plan.
 - c) May need to present other options for moveable furnishings on 3rd floor terrace.
10. Val Schute discussed the Occupancy Matrix that was reviewed at the meeting on July 18, 2008. Some questions had arisen regarding the limited occupant loads within some of the spaces. Based on the matrix, a few rooms have less than programmed occupancy. Val clarified that in some spaces, including reception or gathering spaces, that an egress path of travel is taken out of the square footage. As a result, the net square footage is less than program. The actual square footage is close to program in most cases.
11. Future vertical expansion was discussed. The building had originally been designed to accommodate a future fourth floor expansion over the southeast wing. Further analysis of cost have been done by the design team. The Planning Committee agreed that it is very unlikely that campus would ever expand this facility vertically. The decision was made to omit the structural elements to accommodate a future vertical expansion.
12. The southwest entry was reviewed. River Architects presented new options based on discussion held at the meeting on July 18th. The committee preferred Option B, but with the removal of the wall. This will incorporate the stair into the vestibule.
13. Vending areas were reviewed and discussed. Bob Hetzel recommended the design accommodate 4 to 5 machines on the first floor. There should also be an area for recycling in this location. Data needs to be provided to all vending areas. The vending machine locations on levels 2 and 3 was also discussed as being moved to the northwest corner. The space that was the vending area will be used for storage.
14. The copy/print room locations were reviewed and discussed. River Architects toured Wimberly Hall, Main Hall, and Cowley Hall to verify the current copy room needs in the academic buildings on campus. River Architects presented an option of relocating the copy room on the first floor to the mail room and combining the functions into one space. The design was approved.
15. The capacity of the Hall of Nations was discussed. River Architects presented various seating layouts for the space. Currently, the Occupancy Matrix uses an occupancy of 300 for the Hall of Nations. The committee agreed to the occupancy number being designed.

16. The south facing study area on levels 2 and 3 were discussed. River Architects presented various options for the area, including flexible seating, built-in booths, and various counter configurations. The Planning Committee agreed to keeping this area as flexible as possible. The option of maintaining the recessed alcove and utilizing movable furniture was approved. Data outlets will be provided.

Meeting Notes by: Michael J. Adler, Associate AIA

Note: This constitutes our understanding of the issues presented. Contact River Architects, Inc. via phone at (608) 785-2217, or e-mail m.adler@river-architects.com if there are any discrepancies.

- c. All in attendance
 - Matt Lewis/UWL
 - Larry Earll/DSF
 - Maura Donnelly/UWSA
 - Alex Bargout/Arnold & O'Sheridan, Inc.
 - Nate Novak/JJR, LLC
 - Mike Bohlmann/PSJ Engineering, Inc.
 - Ian Griffiths/Berners-Schoeber Associates, Inc.
 - Dennis Johnson/Ayres Associates, Inc.
 - Michael Thomason/Thomason Clark Corp.
 - Scott Leonard/Professional Audio Design
 - Phil Roeglin/Professional Audio Designs, Inc.