

Committee on Committees (COC) Minutes

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

10:00 a.m.

308 Marston

& via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/825806151>

Present: Barbara K. Smith, Gail Hansen, Richard Scholtz, Alyson Adams, Steven Swarts and Michelle Leonard and Laurie Bialosky.

1. Call to Order and Introductions – Barbara K. Smith, Chair

- The meeting was called to order by COC Chair Barbara K. Smith at 10:00 a.m.

2. Approve February 19, 2020 minutes

- The minutes were approved.

3. [Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee](#) – Gail Hansen, Chair

- Gail Hansen provided an overview of committee activities from the last four years. The committee meets eight to nine times per year on every second Thursday of the month.

- Typically, three projects per meeting are reviewed. The UF Landscape Master Plan has been a primary projects review.

- Attention is given on each project to the tree mitigation policy, which was recently revised. When a tree is removed for construction, determinations are made regarding what the payment cost is, which is paid in the mitigation bank, or how many trees are needed to for replanting and what size trees are being assessed or replaced.

- Recent project types were discussed: sorority and fraternity houses had eight projects; eight projects pertained to athletic facilities; and seven to academic buildings, as well as a variety of associated buildings. Some project requests are given more specific instructions following submissions, particularly if there is a denial and the requestors would like one more opportunity to re-submit a plan.

- Priority projects in the Campus Master Plan were discussed as well as details in the Landscape Master Plan, including plans for the parameters of campus, marquees, and landscape re-designs. The Newell Drive is a gateway area for this project and the committee has approved some of the road plans. Museum Road infrastructure will be extensive and was discussed.

- There are 13 priority projects in the Campus Master Plan. Reduction of vehicular traffic and making campus more pedestrian friendly are key elements of the plan. There is also a security plan and security issues related to this project, and the committee has seen those concept plans. Chief Operating Officer Charlie Lane introduced this plan to Faculty Senate at its November 21, 2019 meeting. (View: [Campus Master Plan Briefing](#) and note that the 'video flyover' slide is viewable in the [Senate meeting webinar](#) @ 0:43:52.)

- This committee is usually the first step in the planning process. A concept plan is submitted, and the Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee then reviews such details as the building, parking lots, etc. The Parking & Transportation Committee and, if appropriate, the Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee, review the project, with the last step being a visit to the Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee one final time for approval of the final landscape plan. Thus, the committee sees each project two to three

times or more before final approval.

- The committee acts as an advisory committee and VP of Business Affairs, Curtis Reynolds, reviews all committee minutes and takes the committee's recommendations under advisement.

- One of the committee's biggest challenges is attendance but quorum is usually met.

- Gail has actively chaired the committee for ten years and has observed that the committee size seems adequate, especially as those who cannot attend a meeting typically submit written comments to her so that all pertinent items are addressed at the meeting. As with Faculty Senate, proxy votes are not recognized. Students have the ability to make a motion and vote and are active committee participants.

- The committee enjoys a strong communications channel with the university grounds staff, both of whom are occasionally contacted by community members with inquiries or comments about ongoing projects or about smaller, miscellaneous landscaping-related items needing attention on campus. This is also helpful as their work, as well as that of this committee's, is key in maintaining the appearance of campus and its extensive landscaping, which fosters the recruitment of new students, welcomes visitors, and ideally reflects UF's top ten status.

4. [Honorary Degrees and Distinguished Awards Committee](#) – Rick Yost, Chair

- Dr. Yost will be invited to the April meeting, which will be the final one of the academic year.

5. Draft Update of 2020 Committee on Committees Report to the Senate

- Past minutes will be placed in a sharable Google Document so members can easily edit all portions of the report. Chair Smith will forward this link.

6. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.