

Infrastructure Council Minutes January 8, 2024 2:00 p.m.

***303 Rinker Hall** *or if needed via Zoom:

<https://ufl.zoom.us/j/98006133762?pwd=MHFjK1pNSDFYWC80dzB4cVNtQk9XQT09>

Passcode: 290195 Meeting ID: 980 0613 3762 Dial in: +1 305 224 1968

Present: Walter O'Dell, David Ross, Yousong Ding, Linda Dixon, Mark Helms, Cynda Crawford, Patrick Reakes, Ann Baird, Linda Dixon, Matt Williams, Gail Hansen de Chapman, Raymond Issa, Scott Washburn, Andrew Zimmerman, Carlos Dougnac, Selman Hershfield, Mark McCallister, Patricia Sohn, and Rachel Mandell.

1. Call to Order – Walter O’Dell, Infrastructure Council Chair

- The meeting was called to order at 2:01 p.m. by Infrastructure Council Chair Walter O’Dell.

2. Approval of November 6, 2023 Minutes

- The minutes were approved.

3. Energy Plant Update – Mark Helms, Asst. VP of Facilities Services Division and Sustainability

(Director Matt Williams): Duke Energy proposed to modify its facility to be more environmentally friendly. The modifications would be on the same site. The cost is mainly associated with the replacement of engines. Duke Energy will continue to provide steam to UF for 15 years. The electricity from Duke Energy to UF is not part of agreement. Solar panels with 4 Mwatts could be possible but associate with costs. There are discussions on options of solar thermo and solar steam. Many more discussions on these topics are ongoing.

4. [Lake Alice Watershed Management Plan](#) / [Public Workshops Updates](#) - Linda Dixon, Director of Planning, Planning, Design & Construction Division

Director Dixon showed a link to this project (<https://facilities.ufl.edu/campus-planning/>), which includes detailed information, e.g., project updates, project management, steering committee members, committee meeting (met three times already). Slides of the last meeting are available online (Nov 29, 2023, https://facilities.ufl.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/2023-29-11-Lake-Alice-WMP-SC-worksession-materials_summary.pdf). Details about project tasks and Status (slide #10) and overall schedule (slide #11; by the end of this semester, the plan is finished) can be found. However, no dedicated fund is currently available to address any recommendations if made. Some recommendations might not involve fund but program changes. The committee is communicating with the city and university to coordinate activities. One question is if the golf course impacts Lake Alice Water Systems and it turned out that these two systems have been separated.

5. Reporting of Contributing Committees and Administrative Liaisons:

a. Parking and Transportation Committee (J) – Scott Washburn

Dec 12 meeting discussed (1) repainting efforts on southeastern sides of Reitz Union (a big bus stop) and (2) improving bicycle and pedestrian friendliness on campus (including committee awareness). A lot of discussions on this aspect, and any potential actions are not immediate. One question is how to charge E-scooters as it becomes more and more popular (hundreds parked outside of residence halls sometime). Scott Washburn indicated that it was a topic discussed in his committee, which also included E-bicycles. Matt Williams indicated that it is a frequently discussed topic, but no external chargers are available on campus right now. Currently no clear solutions or answers are available. Patrick Reakes also mentioned that more and more E-bicycles and E-scooters come to the libraries. Parking and charging in and around buildings are two growing issues. The same to classrooms. There are also discussions on how E-scooters drive/ride on roads, sidewalks, bike lanes, or car lanes.

b. University IT Committee (S) – Ray Issa

No meeting since last council meeting.

c. Lakes, Vegetation, and Landscaping Committee (J) -- Gail Hansen

In the Dec meeting, LVL approved the following: Inner Road Improvements: remove 2 Live Oaks and substitute White Oaks, 2 Live Oaks to remain, substitute 3 small native trees for the 3 Crepe Myrtles by the Fine Arts building; Disability Center, approved but suggested to save a large oak tree on Stadium Road by shifting the proposed building; UF health Orthopedics: requesting more info about the exact needs of new parking lot as it requested to remove a significant number of trees. In Jan meeting, more info was provided by UF health Orthopedics and the request was approved in the meeting; (Linda Dixon) Discussions on one-way traffic on Fletcher drive South and Buckman Drive North. The purpose is to better accommodate bicycles and pedestrians; no money for implication yet.

d. Preservation of Historic Buildings and Sites Committee (J) – Ann Baird

No meeting in Dec.

e. Land Use and Facilities Planning Committee (J) – Jay Watkins

No meeting in Dec.

f. Sustainability Committee (J) – Andrew Zimmerman

Nothing to be reported. Collecting data around climate change 2.0. Matt Williams: Climate Change 2.0 is waiting to be approved.

g. University Libraries Committee Administrative Liaison – Sr. Associate Dean Patrick Reakes / ULC Chair: Vandana Baweja

Patrick: Historic building renovation in Engineering to be started in Jan (on Track).

6. New Business

None.

7. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Infrastructure Council member Yousong Ding.