

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 10:45am
Claiborne Robertson Room

There were present:

Monroe Harris, Chair
Brian Ball
Janet Geldzahler
Andrew Lewis
Lynette Allston, Trustee President, ex-officio

Absent:

Jim Cheng
Pamela Royal

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director and Chief Executive Officer
Jame Anderson, SmithGroup
Kay Baker
Candy Banks
Caprice Bragg
Edie Cabaniss
Stephanie Cooperstein
Courtney Freeman
Tom Gutenberger
Andrew Harris
Jan Hatchette
Tim Hill
Jeffrey Humber
Marianne Littel
Curt Manchester, Office of the Attorney General
Cynthia Marquez, Office of the Attorney General
Colleen Milewski
Casey Nye
Colin Robinson, Gilbane Construction Company
Dayton Schroeter, SmithGroup
Anne Smith
Michael Taylor
Brett Thompson, Gilbane Construction Company
Charlie Whitaker
Chris Wood, SmithGroup

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Dr. Monroe Harris called the meeting to order at 10:48am.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

Motion: Proposed by Dr. Harris and seconded by Dr. Andrew Lewis to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2023 meeting of the Building Committee as distributed. Motion carried.

III. EXPANSION AND RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Alex Nyerges, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts (VMFA) Director and Chief Executive Officer, reported that design options for the expansion have been reevaluated in response to the initial estimates of construction costs by Gilbane Building Company, the museum's Construction Manager at Risk. The architects at SmithGroup, through discussions with primary stakeholders and Gilbane Building Company, are developing a revised schematic design that mitigates significant costs by keeping the entirety of the addition above ground.

Mr. Nyerges also noted that renovation of the Leslie Cheek Theater will begin in January 2024 and is scheduled for completion by August 2024. He concluded his report by introducing Mr. Brett Thompson, the museum's new point of contact for the Gilbane Building Company as Mr. Colin Robinson has resigned from Gilbane to accept another employment opportunity.

V. SCHEMATIC DESIGNS FOR THE EXPANSION

Mr. Chris Wood, SmithGroup Project Manager, described updates to the project to accommodate above ground public areas among others. Mr. Dayton Schroeter, SmithGroup Lead Designer, presented a working revised schematic design for exterior massing. At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Wood, Mr. Schroeter, and Ms. Jame Anderson, SmithGroup Principal-in-Charge, responded to questions from the committee.

VI. ADJOURNMENT/OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and approved by the committee at 11:40am.

Recorded by: Stephanie Cooperstein
Executive Administrator