Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
Draft Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting
Wednesday, June 14, 2023, 10:45am
Claiborne Robertson Room

There were present:

Brian Ball
 Janet Geldzahler

Andrew Lewis

Pamela Royal

Lynette Allston , Trustee President, ex-officio

Absent:

Monroe Harris, Chair

Jim Cheng

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director and Chief Executive Officer

Jame Anderson, SmithGroup

Belilta Asfaw, SmithGroup

Kay Baker
 Candy Banks

Caprice Bragg

Edie Cabaniss

Stephanie Cooperstein

Courtney Freeman

Mike Gilbert, Department of General Services

Marcia Gilliam

Ann Goettman

Rachel Graf, Office of the Attorney General Intern

Tom Gutenberger

Andrew Harris

Jan Hatchette

Tim Hill

Jeffrey Humber

Cynthia Marquez, Office of the Attorney General

Colleen Milewski

Bob Mooney

Casey Nye

John O’Connor

Jay Olander, VMFA Foundation President

Maressa Pinnock, SmithGroup

Colin Robinson, Gilbane Construction Company

 Dayton Schroeter, SmithGroup

Michael Taylor

Charlie Whitaker

Chris Wood, SmithGroup

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Brian Ball, on behalf of Committee Chair Dr. Monroe Harris, called the meeting to order at 10:48am.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

**Motion**: Proposed by Dr. Andrew Lewis and seconded by Dr. Pamela Royal to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2023 meeting of the Building Committee as distributed. Motion carried.

III. EXPANSION AND RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATES

Alex Nyerges, VMFA Director and Chief Executive Officer, reported that initial estimates on the cost of construction have been compiled by Gilbane Building Company, the museum’s Construction Manager at Risk. Gilbane’s initial cost estimate reflects a 14% increase that is largely due to the current inflationary environment. Reviews and adjustments of the estimate will be undertaken over the coming days.

V. DESIGN CONCEPTS FOR THE EXTERIOR OF THE NEW WING

Dayton Schroeter, Lead Designer of the SmithGroup and Lead Designer for the VMFA Expansion, presented initial concepts for the expansion’s exterior. He noted that the designs were influenced by pieces in VMFA’s permanent collection that include woven baskets and quilts. Jame Anderson, SmithGroup Vice President and Cultural Practice Director, emphasized that input from community engagement sessions directly informed the design choices, which focus on interconnecting outdoor and indoor spaces, providing areas for patrons to pause for reflection, and continuity with existing spaces. As these are conceptual renderings, it is almost certain that there will be additional changes in the design. At the end of the presentation, Mr. Schroeter and Ms. Anderson 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 11:43am.

Recorded by: Stephanie Cooperstein

Executive Administrator