

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts
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