

Virginia Museum of Fine Arts  
Draft Minutes of the Building Committee Meeting  
Tuesday, June 11, 2024, 12:30pm  
Claiborne Robertson Room

There were present:

Brian Ball, Chair  
Janet Geldzahler, *Virtual (personal)*  
Pamela Royal  
Lynette Allston, Trustee President, ex-officio

Absent:

Jim Cheng  
Matt Cooper

By Invitation:

Alex Nyerges, Director and Chief Executive Officer  
Jame Anderson, SmithGroup  
Belilta Asfaw, SmithGroup  
Kay Baker  
Candy Banks  
Dayal Baxani  
Caprice Bragg  
Edie Cabaniss  
David Cary  
Cindy Conner  
Stephanie Cooperstein  
Ken Dye  
Courtney Freeman  
Michael Gilbert, Department of General Services  
Marcia Gilliam  
Ann Goettman  
Tom Gutenberger  
Andrew Harris  
Jan Hatchette  
Tim Hill  
Bill Keyes  
Andy Lewis  
Marianne Littel  
Deb Love, Office of the Attorney General  
Curt Manchester, Office of the Attorney General  
Karen McGill  
Bob Mooney  
Whitney Murphy  
Casey Nye  
John O'Connor  
Jay Olander  
Dayton Schroeter, SmithGroup

Christina Shin  
Anne Smith  
Michael Taylor

I. CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Brian Ball called the meeting to order at 12:35pm.

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

**Motion:** A motion was made by Dr. Pam Royal and seconded by Ms. Lynette Allston to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2024 meeting of the Building Committee as distributed. Motion carried.

III. EXPANSION AND RENOVATION PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Alex Nyerges, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Director and Chief Executive Officer, reported that the renovation of the Leslie Cheek Theater is underway and scheduled to be completed in the fall 2024. The overall total raised for the Cheek Theater renovation project is \$5.3 million. Once re-opened, the theater will be the first completed phase of the museum's overall expansion and renovation project.

IV. EXPANSION DESIGN UPDATES

Ms. Jame Anderson, SmithGroup Principal in Charge, Mr. Dayton Schroeter, SmithGroup Design Director, and Belilta Asfaw, SmithGroup Architect and Designer, presented an initial overview of the museum's schematic design. Ms. Anderson noted that work is on schedule and that next steps include the creation of a planning design, which will have a greater level of detail. They shared highlights of preliminary interior concepts, which include flute abstracted classical elements, connections to nature with bio-organic details, and bright, open, and inviting spaces. The presentation concluded with options for public space and an overview of an event area with a 500-person capacity.

V. GROVE AVENUE STORAGE FACILITY UPDATE

Mr. Nyerges reported that after extensive research and site visits for additional art storage space for the museum, it was determined to be more logistically and financially sound to construct a 12,000 square-foot facility on Grove Avenue on museum property. The facility is scheduled to be completed in 2025, which coincides with the museum's need to begin storing art in preparation for the construction of the expansion. It is anticipated that the storage facility will continue to house the museum's growing collection.

VI. ADJOURNMENT/OTHER BUSINESS

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and approved by the committee at 1:16pm.

Recorded by: Kay Baker  
Administrative Assistant