Prior to the commencement of the Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee meeting, (beginning at approximately 10:40 a.m.), in an effort to eliminate repetition, presentations of construction projects for the Storrs based programs and UConn Health were made to members of both the Construction Management Oversight Committee and the Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee.

Thomas Trutter, UConn Health, Associate Vice President for Campus Planning, Design and Construction, provided a brief overview and update in the form of a PowerPoint presentation on the BioScience Connecticut projects. He stated that over 2,630 total workers have come through the site through June 30. Approximately 81% of all contracts awarded have been to Connecticut companies and projected awards to minority/women/disadvantaged businesses at 23% which exceeds the required 6.25%. He noted that veteran hiring is at 4% on the hospital tower project. Mr. Trutter informed the committee that the Jackson Laboratories building is planning their opening ceremony for October 7; and a steel topping off ceremony for the Hospital Tower on September 8. He provided an OCIP update on the program’s risk.
management system and information on construction quality risk, project budget risk, project schedule risk, and risk of disruption to on-going UConn Health operations due to construction.

At approximately 11:20 a.m. Chairman Ritter convened the meeting of the Board of Trustees’ Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee.

On a motion by Mr. Ritter, seconded by Mr. Archambault, agenda Item #4, Minutes of the Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee meetings of May 28, 2014, June 2, 2014, and June 25, 2014 were approved, as circulated.

On a motion by Mr. Ritter and seconded by Trustee Lobo the agenda was revised to add an athletic update and an update on the Storrs Master Plan/Next Generation Connecticut Environmental Review Process.

Laura Cruickshank, University Master Planner and Chief Architect, provided a PowerPoint presentation as part of her update of the Storrs based construction and renovation projects. Project updates included the Engineering & Science Building, the Innovation Partnership Building, Monteith Renovation, UConn Hartford, Putnam Refectory Renovation, STEM Residence Hall, Honors Residence Hall, Fine Arts Phase II, UConn Waterbury, Torrey Roof Replacement and various utility projects. Projects in planning were reviewed including the Master Plan; a science planning study to start in fall 2014; a space needs assessment for all disciplines; Gant and Torrey renovation planning; formulation of space design guidelines and standards; formulation of a space allocation process; updates to the FAMIS database for all buildings on campus; updates to website; and formulation of a Capital Improvement Plan in collaboration with Facilities Operations. Ms. Cruickshank provided an animation of the proposed STEM residence hall. Mr. Archambault inquired as to the status of the Recreation Facility. Ms. Cruickshank responded that the project was dependent upon the Master Plan to determine the location, phasing and cost and she will provide more information later in the fall.

Doug Gnodtke, Senior Associate Athletic Director and CFO for the Division of Athletics, provided an update on anticipated Athletic facility improvements over the next few years including requirements of Hockey East. In addition he gave an update on fund raising efforts for the Athletics programs. Facility improvements are dependent upon the upcoming Master Plan recommendations. It is anticipated that the program will maintain their facilities in the current Athletics footprint. Concern about the aging Gampel Pavilion was noted along with roof issues. Concerns were raised by Committee members about the timing for fundraising to enable building a new hockey arena. Mr. Gnodtke stated that priority fundraising for Athletics is currently for the Basketball Champions Center. Until architectural drawings and location are determined for the hockey arena fundraising for the facility is on hold as Hockey East requires that the University have a plan by 2016 not a building by that time. Mr. Gnodtke provided an explanation of how fund allocation and priorities for projects within the Athletic Master Plan are made. Mr. Ritter asked that the Trustees be updated periodically on these issues as plans for the program and facilities evolve. Mr. Ritter thanked Mr. Gnodtke for his work on a difficult financial situation.
Trustee Dennis-LaVigne expressed her concerns regarding the safety of the Gampel roof if it is in need of repair. Ms. Cruickshank responded that the firm of Simpson Gumpertz & Heger have reviewed the roof previously and will be doing so again soon to determine next steps for the facility. Repairs and upgrades are underway currently in Gampel to ensure that the roof is not a safety concern.

Thomas Callahan, Associate Vice President for Infrastructure Planning and Strategic Project Management, updated the committee on the Storrs Master Plan/Next Generation Connecticut Environmental Review process. OPM has approved the EIEs for the first Next Generation UConn projects; the new science and engineering building as well as the STEM residence hall. OPM confirmed that the Adrian’s Landing EIE is sufficient for the University to proceed with the downtown Hartford project; but reminded the University that an EIE is needed for the disposition of the West Hartford property which is underway.

The University is in the process of developing a 20 year master plan for the Storrs and Depot campuses. It has been the intention to use that work as the basis of a master plan based EIE. The University has previously conducted and OPM has approved master plan EIEs for the north campus in 2001 and for BioScience in Farmington including the Jackson Labs project in 2011. OPM has informed UConn that in its opinion UConn lacks adequate statutory authority to undertake a master plan based EIE. OPM staff has offered to work closely with UConn to identify a mutually agreeable approach to undertake one or more environmental reviews that account for not only the impacts associated with specific building projects but also the cumulative impact of a full build out. The cumulative impacts are of interest to the University, the Town of Mansfield, and others and are harder to assess without looking at the bigger picture. University staff with meet with OPM next week to initiate that discussion and are hopeful to settle on an approach within the next 30-45 days. Also under review is the option to amend applicable statutes to provide UConn with similar authority provided to the Board of Regents and institutions that undertake master plan based EIEs.

It is anticipated the University will undertake a separate EIE for the Honors residence hall next which is the next most significant Next Generation Connecticut project; in order to meet the construction schedule and have the building open by fall 2017. In addition, OPM’s final approval of the environmental review for the Innovation Partnership building is anticipated and needed this month to maintain the planned construction schedule. It is also expected that this month DEEP will issue the notice of tentative determination to issue the key permit for the water project which is subject to a contested hearing.

On a motion by Trustee Ritter and seconded by Mr. Archambault the committee voted to go into Executive Session at 12:05 p.m. to discuss commercial or financial information given in confidence and preliminary drafts and notes that the University has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure.

Trustees Present: Richard Carbray (via telephone), Charles Bunnell (via telephone), Michael Daniels, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne (via telephone), Marilda Gandara (via telephone), Rebecca Lobo (via telephone), Donny Marshall (via telephone) and Thomas Ritter
Board of Directors Members Present: Francis Archambault

University Staff Present: Rachel Rubin, Richard Orr, John Biancamano, Thomas Callahan, Robert Corbett, Laura Cruickshank, Michael Kirk, Michael Gilbert, Robert Sitkowski, and Debbie Carone

At 12:30 p.m. the Executive Session ended and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Carone
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Secretary to the Committee