

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
University of Connecticut
Teleconference
February 16, 2021

TRUSTEES PARTICIPATING: Justin Fang, Marilda Gandara, Jeanine Gouin,
Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Thomas Ritter, and Daniel Toscano

BOARD OF DIRECTORS PARTICIPATING:
Francis Archambault, Richard Carbray

STAFF PARTICIPATING: Lloyd Blanchard, James Bradley, Debbie Carone,
Patricia Casey, Robert Corbett, Laura Cruickshank,
Greg Daniels, Gail Garber, Nicole Gelston, Michael Jednak,
Scott Jordan, Thomas Katsouleas, Nathan LaVallee,
Carl Lejuez, Lynn Lesniak, Joann Lombardo, Rich Miller,
Stephanie Reitz, Rachel Rubin, Michael Schrier,
Julie Schwager, Robert Sitkowski, Darshana Sonpal, Thomas
Trutter, Kristen Wirtanen and Reka Wrynn

SENATE REPRESENTATIVES PARTICIPATING:
Anji Seth

Vice-Chair Marilda Gandara convened a meeting of the Buildings, Grounds and Environment (BGE) Committee at 10:02 a.m. via teleconference and asked for a roll call of those on the telephone, and asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak. Trustee Gandara directed the committee to agenda **Item #1, Approval of the Minutes of the Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Meeting of December 2, 2020.** On a motion by Trustee Gouin and seconded by Mr. Archambault, the item was approved as circulated.

James Bradley, Director of Construction Assurance, reviewed his findings and recommendations contained in agenda **Item #3, Office of Construction Assurance Quarterly Report – February 2021.**

Thomas Trutter, UConn Health, Associate Vice President for Campus Planning, Design and Construction, briefed the Committee on agenda **Item #4, UConn Health Updates,** including an overview of a project for the Musculoskeletal Institute Building (MSI) Roof Top Unit Replacement, which will be funded 50% by Eversource and 50% from UCH operating capital funds. The project will be presented to the Board of Trustees for approval on February 24.

Laura Cruickshank, Associate Vice President for University Planning, Design and Construction, detailed agenda **Item #5, Project Update ~ Storrs Based Programs.** The update included a review of the UCONN 2000 Code Remediation Project at the Stamford campus and the UConn Hockey Arena project.

On a motion by Mr. Archambault and seconded by Trustee Gouin, the committee voted to go into Executive Session at 10:32 a.m. for a discussion concerning preliminary drafts or notes provided the public agency has determined that the public interest in withholding such documents clearly outweighs the public interest in disclosure; per Connecticut General Statutes, Section 210(b)(1); and records pertaining to strategy and negotiations with respect to pending claims or pending litigation to which the public agency is a party until such litigation or claim has been finally adjudicated or otherwise settled pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 1-210(b)(4).

Trustees participating in the session included: Justin Fang, Marilda Gandara, Jeanine Gouin, Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Thomas Ritter, and Daniel Toscano.

UConn Health Board of Directors members participating in the session included: Francis Archambault, Richard Carbray.

University staff participating in the session included: President Katsouleas, Rachel Rubin, Scott Jordan, Nicole Gelston, Carl Lejuez, Lloyd Blanchard, Laura Cruickshank, Robert Corbett, Robert Sitkowski, Joann Lombardo, Gail Garber, Nathan LaVallee, and Debbie Carone.

The committee returned to open session at 11:19 a.m. and the meeting resumed.

Ms. Cruickshank continued her presentation of project updates for the Storrs campus including the Performance Center and Stadia project; the Northwest Science Quad project; and the Public Safety Building Renovation. The discussion also included a review of the Storrs projects to be presented to the Board of Trustees on February 24 including the Stamford code remediation, Andover Infrastructure Software Upgrade and the Campus Wayfinding projects. Ms. Cruickshank updated the committee on process improvements including new change order workflow. Student housing is being reviewed for Student Housing Master Plan which will be layered with the Strategic Plan and the Sustainability Plan.

Scott Jordan stated that Greg Daniels, Interim Associate Vice President of UBS and Chief Procurement Officer, is leading a series of discussions in procurement around how to best support the goal of doubling research, which will spin off a number of topics for future BGE discussion on how to meet the needs of the University's research community through both procurement and construction and planning.

Ms. Cruickshank provided introductory remarks on agenda ***Item # 9, President's Working Group on Sustainability and the Environment Update***. Anji Seth, University Senate Representative, provided a brief update on the continued work of the President's Working Group to finalize their recommendations in March. Trustee Gandara requested future cost updates and environmental impact on capital projects as they become available. President Katsouleas commended Dr. Seth on the analysis and work being accomplished by the Working Group. Reconciliation of costs is one of the Group's top priority along with review of what peer institutions are doing. The two challenges to the achieving the goal is funding and campus disruption.

Greg Daniels briefed the Committee on agenda ***Item #7, Operational Activities and Organizational Improvements for University Business Services, Capital Projects and Facilities***

Procurement. Trustee Gandara requested that Mr. Daniels present earlier on the agenda for the April meeting including updating the committee with a 5-year overview and progress.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:54 a.m. on a motion by Mr. Archambault and seconded by Trustee Gouin.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Carone

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Secretary to the Committee