

MINUTES

BUILDINGS, GROUNDS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

University of Connecticut

Teleconference

November 30, 2021

COMMITTEE TRUSTEES: Andrea Dennis-LaVigne, Marilda Gandara, Jeanine Gouin and Rebecca Lobo

UCONN HEALTH BOD

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Francis Archambault and Richard Carbray, Jr.

OTHER TRUSTEES: Thomas Ritter and Board Chair Daniel Toscano

UNIVERSITY STAFF: Andrew Agwunobi, Donna Balskus, Lloyd Blanchard, Patricia Casey, Robert Corbett, Laura Cruickshank, Nathan Fuerst, Gail Garber, Nicole Gelston, David Hook, Michael Jednak, George Karsanow, Michael Kirk, Frank LaRosa, Nathan LaVallee, Carl Lejuez, Lynn Lesniak, Joann Lombardo, Stephanie Reitz, Rachel Rubin, Michael Schrier, Marie Schweitzer, Robert Sitkowski, Joseph Thompson, Thomas Trutter, Kristen Wirtanen, and Reka Wrynn

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 participating. There being no requests for Public Comment, Trustee Gandara directed the Committee to agenda **Item #2, Approval of the Minutes of the Buildings, Grounds and Environment Committee Meeting of October 18, 2021**. On a motion by Mr. Archambault and seconded by Mr. Carbray, the item was approved.

The Committee was directed to agenda **Item #3, Office of Construction Assurance**. Frank LaRosa, Associate Vice President and Chief Audit Executive, reported that summary report would be deferred until the February BGE Committee meeting. An Appendix will be added to code audit reports of no exceptions to provide an explanation for that determination.

George Karsanow, Director, Construction Services, UConn Health, briefed the Committee on agenda **Item #4, UConn Health Updates**. The presentation included an update on UCH COVID 19 response as well an update on the clinic building renovations project; and the plan to utilize the \$25M DM funds received from the State. The upcoming projects at UCH utilizing those funds will be coming to the Board of Trustees for approval.

Vice-Chair Gandara noted that Frank LaRosa has been asked to determine best practice to document projects as they progress to facilitate ease when project audits take place and recommended that Messrs. Karsanow and LaRosa discuss how to proceed.

Joseph Thompson, Associate Vice President of University Business Services and Chief Procurement Officer reviewed agenda ***Item #5, University Business Services – Capital Projects and Facilities Procurement Operational Activities and Organizational Improvements.***

Laura Cruickshank, Associate Vice President for University Planning, Design and Construction, and Robert Corbett, Executive Director & Director of Real Estate and Regional Projects, detailed agenda ***Item #6, Project Update ~ Storrs Based Programs.*** The presentation highlighted the projects going to the Board of Trustees for approval in December, a land transfer for the former Bergin Correctional Institute property to return to OPM for use as a technical high school, and the Stamford Mill River code remediation. Stamford is the last of the code remediation projects. Ms. Cruickshank emphasized concern about cost escalation that will effect all upcoming capital projects. In addition, Ms. Cruickshank reported on the Mirror Lake Safety Plan that was questioned in the October meeting stating that an Emergency Action Plan (EAP) is in development for the Mirror Lake dam along with the training dams at Depot Campus. The Plan is under review by Emergency Management with completion and departmental distribution in January 2022. Vice Chair Gandara requested a later update on staff training on the critical elements of the EAP.

The committee was directed to review the information items on the agenda.

On a motion by Trustee Gouin and seconded by Mr. Carbray, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session at 10:40 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).

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

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

University staff participating in the session included: Interim President Agwunobi, Donna Balskus, Lloyd Blanchard, Robert Corbett, Laura Cruickshank, Gail Garber, Nicole Gelston, Michael Kirk, Nathan LaVallee, Carl Lejuez, Joann Lombardo, Rachel Rubin, Kristin Wirtanen, and Reka Wrynn.

The Committee came out of Executive Session and adjourned on a motion by Trustee Gouin and seconded by Mr. Carbray, at 11:22 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Balskus

Donna M. Balskus on behalf of

Debbie L. Carone, Secretary to the Committee