

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
ARCHITECTURAL COMMISSION

Minutes of UWAC
Monday, June 8th, 2020
Virtual – Zoom Meeting

Architectural Commission

X	Renee Cheng, Chair	Dean, College of Built Environments	Voting
X	AnnMarie Borys, Vice Chair	Associate Professor, College of Built Environments	Voting
X	Linda Jewell	Partner, Freeman & Jewell	Voting
X	Andrea Leers	Principal, Leers Wienzapfel Associates	Voting
X	Cathy Simon	Design Principal	Voting
X	John Syvertsen	Chairman, Board of Regents, American Architectural Foundation	Voting
	Bea Badipe	Student Representative, Architecture	Voting
X	Kristine Kenney	University Landscape Architect, UW Facilities	Ex Officio
X	Mike McCormick	Associate Vice President, UW Facilities	Ex Officio
X	Lou Cariello	Vice President, UW Facilities	Ex Officio

Minutes by Stephanie Parker

Call to Order

The Chair of the Architectural Commission and Dean of the College of Built Environments, Renee Cheng, called the meeting to order.

Approval of Past Minutes and Current Agenda

The April 27th meeting minutes and current agenda were approved unanimously.

UW Bothell Husky Village Project Update

- This is a P3 developer led project. An RFP has been issued and a final meeting has been set to sort through the responses received. Pre-meetings/proprietary meetings that were set up ahead of submission deadlines were found to be incredibly useful in helping teams shape proposals effectively.
 - o May consider making these proprietary meetings part of the regular process moving forward.
- Some concerns that have come up include property taxes, they are high in this area, and underground parking assumptions, which are very expensive as well. Storm water processing created a concern as well, and options not just centralized at the site, but integrated into the Bothell Campus system are under consideration as well.

Comments

- *How are final selections made with P3s?*
 - o *Considerations include, rent, length of land lease, operating structure and costs.*
- *The Architecture Commission isn't involved in the selection process, however they will be involved in the design review process.*
- *Was there compensation for the teams work up on the proposals?*
 - o *No teams did this all on their own, without compensation.*
- *Has there been any visible impact on this process due to the shut down?*
 - o *No. There really wasn't any delay or concern.*

Upcoming UWAC Schedule

- W27 is currently paused, as well as the Health & High Performance Center project, at least until the budget impacts from COVID are understood. We expect that donor funding for H2P specifically won't be effected, but they continue to stay paused to see the effects of the impact to athletic events, and lack of income in the fall.
- Behavioral Health Teaching Facility is moving forward with design reviews, and is scheduled to present to the Commission in August.

Architect Selection Process Review & Discussion

- We plan to build off of the process we have been developing. The process continues to evolve and improve and we anticipate using the new Engineering Building project as an opportunity to really refine this, and "get it right".
- 4 Step Process
 - o Determine who is interested.
 - o Develop an interest list – teams send a letter of interest.
 - o Develop the long list - Use the Commission to help sort through and narrow down the interest group to get this long list.
 - o Develop the short list.

Comments

- *Do you have enough information to develop the long list from the information provided in the letter of interest?*
 - o *Determination would be mostly based on reputation, portfolio, and website as well as the letter of interest.*
 - *This could create barriers for small, lesser known firms to get a foot in the door.*
- *Getting from a bunch of letters of interest to 15-20 firms shouldn't be an issue for the Commission.*
- *General support was shown from Commission members on their involvement in testing this process.*
- *Beware of a potential for missed opportunities to capture, a future great firm in the making. This is a potential gap.*
 - o *The commission should be responsible for recognizing those teams, and held accountable to say this, and discuss.*
 - o *Perhaps the Commission Admin can help us track down and provide info for team awards, etc., that these new firms may have received.*
- *For the August meeting, there will be an introduction to the IEB project, and a "long – long" list will be provided for review, to start this process off.*

Health Science Education Building (HSEB) – Project Update

Julie Knorr, UW PDG

Project Updates

- Skin Development
 - o Shingles and vertical panels, in varying widths and heights, provide an experience of feathers, pinecones, etc.
 - o Shading
 - A mockup was built on site and a video showing the area throughout the day provided an example of the façade over the course of a sunny day.
 - Provided a great play of light and shadow that was envisioned.
 - o Pattern and Texture of Shingles
 - The team experimented with different perforated and corrugated materials in advance of the mock-up, to aid in navigating the process.

- Lessons Learned and Takeaways
 - Mirror finish is much too intense
 - General approval of vertical corrugation and perforation received.
- Color Options
 - Shingles and panels
 - Considered lighter skin above – helping highlight the shadow effect seen in the mock-up study; and darker skin below - still reviewing samples of the lower skin to ensure it has enough tooth and differentiation.
 - Considering the color being all the same, but creating variation in gradient by slightly altering the perforation around the building
 - Incorporating a playful pop of color
 - Sprinkled pops of color between shingle gaps periodically
- Entry and Signage
 - Identified the 3 entries and signage.
 - Entries have incorporated wood feel at each of these to bring some of the interior experience outside.
 - Signage and lettering considerations are looking to incorporation with the wood. This process is just starting.
- Interior Experience
 - Color concepts and materiality are being considered currently, for the different levels.
 - Each floor will utilize different materials, furniture, etc., to provide defined feels depending on the space (ie; streetscape, collaborative, reflective).

Comments

- *What is transparent vs opaque in terms of glazing?*
 - *30% window to wall ratio on entire building. Don't know for skin itself the exact percentage. Perforations will not be over any window panels.*
- *The verticals between the shingles would be the same colors as the verticals. Will be a plate and extrusion material.*
 - *How deep are those verticals?*
 - *Still working out the exact distance, but will be set back slightly.*
- *These details will require perfection to ensure that all design and construction is perfectly vertical and straight. Will a metal building hold up well overtime? The execution must be precise. The idea is beautiful and interesting. Continue to use the collaborative process as you did with the plywood, to ensure the finish materials are vetted in the same way.*
- *What color is being considered with the color pops?*
 - *Warmer hues, but we're being cautious, as color is typically a definitive reflection of the time. So figuring out something that is fun, playful, and also, effectively timeless.*
 - *Appreciate the yellow. Provides the sense light.*
 - *Ensure this is include in the mockup. Will the yellow reflect on the corrugation? Will you get the effect that you are hoping for or will the shadow override this?*
- *Is there anything on the roof that will be seen in the elevation?*
 - *Yes. The mechanics on the roof. Those will be included in the future mock ups.*
- *What is the structural module in the building?*
 - *30ft, but beams are 10' on center – so 3 shingles/panels per 10ft on bay.*
- *Have you given thought to the top of the building yet?*
 - *Envisioning the panels to run up "into the sky".*

- *The stair being so prominent on the Pacific Street side, as a common space, loses the idea of the clear view through the building, and will create a problem. This should be prioritized to ensure clear visibility through the building.*
 - o *Current fire code interpretation and funding restrictions are creating roadblocks to this. Once we get through some of the immediate risks of the project, we hope to be able to funnel some of that money back toward this feature.*

Foster School of Business; Founders Hall

Ross Pouley, UW PDG

Project Updates

- Schedule
 - o Project is moving forward, and scheduled to break ground in the near future.
- Site Developments
 - o The tree level view shows the various edges knitting together the building with the current landscape and building environments.
 - o Landform patterns use the topography to develop the relationship between external elements and existing topography.
 - Fountain and bench elements have shifted since previous updates.
 - o Planting character seeks to incorporate effectively into each element along existing edges and building upon those environments – Grass/meadow, forest, and bio retention areas.
 - Close coordination with UW grounds teams has been a priority.
 - Utilization of an eco-turf seed will be a change from other areas of the UW campus.
 - Bio retention areas have bridge like crossings; hope to use elements of planting to make these crossings experiential for users.
 - Forest Promenade will utilize tried and true plantings to give variety.
 - o Massing Concepts
 - Existing Foster School buildings have similar composition and textures. Basic elements of the composition and materials include the office bar, shown in brick similar to the existing Foster School buildings; the classrooms, shown as glass and metal paneling; and the team collaboration areas, seen in mostly glass along the Denny Yard edge.
 - Two variations of corrugated paneling are being utilized/considered. One vertical, and one irregular horizontal.
 - Visual mockups have been created and continue to be studied.
 - Feature Stair to mimic the outdoor timber benches, as well as interior timber features.
 - Situated in a vertically open space, partially suspended from above.
 - Sustainability and Performance
 - Close monitoring of energy use and carbon footprint impacts have been prioritized throughout the process.

Comments

- *Long-term life cycle costs will be of utmost importance. This building has been used in many discussions across campus related to that topic.*
- *What is the ADA access to this building and the external patios?*
 - o *The path between Dempsey Hall and the new building is at grade and ADA accessible.*
 - o *The plaza is accessible by utilizing the external path to the south of the building. The interior main floor has a ramp that connects the west and east.*

- *Appreciation shown toward the development of the northern plaza. The changes that have been adapted are very successful.*
- *Is the stair open all the way up?*
 - o *Yes. The code allowed us to make the stair occupy enough of the space to not consider the space a true atrium. An existing curtain wall between this and the classrooms has also allowed us to keep this open as shown.*
- *The use of the vertical strips in the siding was a nice surprise.*
- *How was working directly with the colleges? What processes were effective? Any lessons learned for others on campus, as they consider diving into these processes.*
 - o *Many face to face meetings and collaborative individuals were involved. The team (school, facilities, design teams, etc.) all knitted together well, and developed a tight group, which lent to positive results and process.*
 - o *Donors weren't directly involved in design meetings, which was helpful. They were encourage and kept well informed by the school, which helped the process immensely.*

Final Comments

- *The HSEB team should be seen at least once more at UWAC.*
 - o *Enough concerns that it will be important to see them again*
 - o *In addition to the external questions, it felt like the interior development may need more progress a well.*
 - *Commissioners, we left with little sense of what the internal design will be.*
 - *Concern expressed over the challenges in creating a precise skin, with a lackluster interior experience.*
 - *Is the thinness of the exterior vertical lines truly as important as the team seems to place on this element?*
 - o *Thin and wavy would be exponentially worse than thick and straight*
 - o *The rooftop needs to be considered as the "fifth" façade. Additional views weren't focused on enough today. Where were the other views, not just Pacific?*
 - o *Concern expressed on the panel "shadow" experience as the material of corrugation and perforation will likely be dramatically different then the solid plywood panel mock showed.*
 - *Flat paneling will likely create issues with the way the building weathers, which is likely why the corrugation is looking to be used as well.*
 - o *Be sure they work more collaboratively with the issue of the curtain wall and the stairs. That should be a priority.*
 - o *More detailed drawings and 3D models need to be shown throughout the building.*
 - o *Internal Lighting will be important to understand as well, throughout the building.*
 - o *Should an interim meeting be scheduled for this specifically ahead of the August?*

Meeting Adjourned – 11:30 AM

Next Meeting: August 10, 2020