

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 3, 2015, FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Facilities Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) conducted a meeting in the Regents’ Room of the Smithsonian Castle on December 3, 2015. Participating were Committee Chair Robert P. Kogod and Committee members, Representative Tom Cole*, Representative Sam Johnson*, Sako Fisher*, George Hartman*, Risa Lavizzo-Mourey*, and Roger Sant. Committee member Senator Patrick Leahy was unable to participate.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Regent and Executive Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.*; Secretary David Skorton*; Director of the Office of Facilities, Engineering, and Operations Nancy Bechtol; Acting Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Associate General Counsel Farleigh Earhart; Office of the Regents Senior Researcher & Writer Jennifer Ehlinger (recorder); Deputy Director of the Office of Facilities, Engineering, and Operations Walter Ennaco; Director of the Office of Facilities Management and Reliability Kendra Gastright; Liaison to Representative Johnson Amanda Hamilton*; Inspector General Cathy Helm*; Undersecretary for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath; Deputy Under Secretary for Finance and Administration John Lapiana; Senior Advisor to Senator Patrick Leahy Kevin McDonald*; Liaison to Representative Cole Sean Murpy*; Deputy Director of the Office of Planning, Design, & Construction Debra Nauta-Rodriguez; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Rachel Parker; Director of Government Relations Nell Payne; and Director for Real Estate Edward Rynne.

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair Robert Kogod called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. Mr. Kogod noted that this meeting would be the last for Committee Member George Hartman, as his term expires in January 2016. He thanked Mr. Hartman for his service on behalf of the Smithsonian, the Committee, and the Board of Regents.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, COMMITTEE MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the draft minutes of the September 30, 2015, Committee meeting were approved without modification.

FACILITIES CAPITAL AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Mr. Kogod noted that there have been no substantive changes to the Facilities Capital and Maintenance financial reports since the last Committee meeting on September 30, 2015, as the Smithsonian had not yet received the fiscal year 2016 federal appropriation. Undersecretary for Finance & Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath updated the Committee on the successful Close-Out of the budget for fiscal year 2015 and the status of the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”) Passback for fiscal year 2017.

* *participated by telephone*

CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS INITIATIVE

The Committee was updated on the status of the Consolidated Administrative Headquarters Initiative (“Initiative”). Mr. Horvath provided a high-level overview of the Initiative and introduced the Smithsonian’s Director for Real Estate Edward Rynne, who delivered a detailed briefing.

The Committee was informed that the initial group of 16 respondents had been reduced to a short list of six remaining offerors, who have proposed a mix of existing properties and build-to-suits. The Smithsonian expects to present a final recommendation to the Committee in 2016, and will begin a plan for implementation of the Consolidated Administrative Headquarters once approval is secured. The Committee was provided with an estimated cost comparison between the leasing of potential spaces and the purchase of a consolidated headquarters location. The Committee discussed the comparison and agreed that the more cost-effective approach is through purchasing. Mr. Rynne advised that, given the current historically low interest rate climate and the potential for immediate savings, the Smithsonian move as expeditiously as possible in order to leverage these benefits.

The Committee inquired if consideration had been given to sites outside the District of Columbia, and specifically within Virginia. Mr. Rynne indicated that several sites in Virginia had been offered as potential locations but that, after subsequent evaluation by the Technical Evaluation Committee (“TEC”) convened for that purpose, had not been included on the current short list of six offerors.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

Deputy Director of the Office of Planning, Design, and Construction Debra Nauta-Rodriguez and Deputy Director of the Office of Facilities, Engineering, and Operations Walter Ennaco updated the Committee on the Smithsonian’s Major Capital Projects. The Committee was briefed on the current progress of the Smithsonian’s many projects, including the interim use of the Arts and Industries Building; the West Wing at the National Museum of American History; the Dino Hall at the National Museum of Natural History; the repairs to the General Services Building at the National Zoological Park (“NZN”); the successful renovations at the Renwick Gallery of the Smithsonian American Art Museum; the completion of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center’s Mathias Lab, which achieved LEED Platinum Certification from the U.S. Green Building Council; the construction progress for the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute’s Gamboa Lab; the Pan-Institutional Collections Storage & Support Space; the construction and exhibit design of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is on target for its grand opening in the fall of 2016; and finally, the status of the South Mall Campus Master Plan, which is developing both short and long-term strategies to restore and replace critical structural and building systems along the South Mall Campus of the National Mall.

PARKING DECK AT THE NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK

Mr. Horvath provided a brief overview of NZP's plan to construct a parking deck, which would largely increase the number of available parking spaces at the facility. The project plan and next steps will be thoroughly developed over the coming months, and presented to the Committee for discussion and review in 2016.

Secretary Skorton applauded the Facilities Committee and the Facilities management team for their excellent work and progress on the great number of Major Capital Projects, in addition to their ongoing commitment and efforts to properly maintain all building facilities across the Smithsonian.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to consider, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert P. Kogod, Chair