

MINUTES OF THE MAY 3, 2018, FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Facilities Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) conducted a meeting on May 3, 2018, in the Regents’ Room of the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, D.C. Participating were Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.* and Committee members Sako Fisher,* Michael Govan,* Robert P. Kogod, Robert MacDonald,* and Lawrence C. Nussdorf.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Secretary David Skorton,* Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol, Deputy Under Secretary for Finance and Administration John Benton, Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy, Associate General Counsel Craig Blackwell, Provost/Under Secretary for Museums and Research John Davis, Deputy Director for Smithsonian Facilities Walter Ennaco, Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester, Office of the Regents Special Assistant Mallory Gianola (recorder), Inspector General Cathy Helm,* Under Secretary for Finance and Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath, Director of the Office of Government Relations Cheryl Johnson,* Senior Advisor to Senator Leahy Kevin McDonald,* and Deputy Director for Planning and Program Management Debra Nauta-Rodriguez.

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr., called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. For purposes of a quorum, a vote on the sole action item included on the agenda was held until after the first two informational items were reviewed.

FACILITIES UPDATE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018

The Committee received an update on the Facilities Capital and Maintenance programs and funding. Under Secretary for Finance and Administration/Chief Financial Officer Albert Horvath reviewed the final fiscal year 2018 appropriation levels for Capital and Maintenance funding. The Institution operated under a continuing resolution for the first half of fiscal year 2018. The Smithsonian requested \$218 million in facilities capital for fiscal year 2018. Mr. Horvath reported that \$311 million was approved in the fiscal year 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act, including \$198 million in revitalization funding for the National Air and Space Museum. Facilities Capital received for other revitalization projects was \$20 million less than requested. Mr. Horvath also highlighted the fiscal year 2019 request to Congress, and the anticipated fiscal year 2020 requirements.

Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol shared the updated Facility Condition Index with the Committee, which included the addition of fiscal year 2017 maintenance projects. Ms. Bechtol noted that each Smithsonian facility with a critically poor rating has an active capital maintenance or repair project in progress.

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM REVITALIZATION UPDATE

Next, Mr. Horvath and Ms. Debra Nauta-Rodriguez updated the Committee on the National Air and Space Museum (“NASM”) revitalization efforts. Construction for the Dulles Collections Storage Module 1 at UHC in Chantilly, Virginia, is progressing on budget and according to schedule. The final \$10 million for the project was received in fiscal year 2018 appropriations. The facility will provide temporary swing space for artifacts requiring relocation from the NASM building on the National Mall during revitalization. Artifact relocation is scheduled to begin in January 2019.

Mr. Horvath then provided an overview of the considerations and challenges of the revitalization, including the artifact move scope and gallery transformation approach. The NASM building on the National Mall currently houses more than 3,400 artifacts. All artifacts will be de-installed and moved out of the building during the revitalization project, with the exception of 18 artifacts that require a Protect in Place (“PiP”) or Protect on Site (“PoS”) approach.

To close, Mr. Horvath presented the Committee with an update on the public approvals process. Final approval for the exterior components, site, and landscape was received by the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts (“CFA”) on March 15, 2018, and by the National Capital Planning Commission (“NCPC”) on April 5, 2018. Upcoming milestones include finalizing the cost structure of the revitalization project in mid-May and awarding the Guaranteed Maximum Price for revitalization by July 2018.

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 15, 2017, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the November 15, 2017, meeting. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the draft minutes were approved without modification.

MAJOR REVITALIZATION PROJECTS AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol briefed the Committee on the status of the Smithsonian’s major revitalization projects at the National Museum of Natural History (“NMNH”) including the Paleo Hall and Fossil hall exhibits, South Entrance improvements, and West Court renovation. The Fossil Hall is the final of the three great halls in the museum to have major utilities renovated. Ms. Bechtol reported that the gallery infrastructure and capital improvements phase is complete and the exhibition phase is underway. Construction of the South Entrance renovation, which will make the main entrance from the National Mall ADA compliant, is approximately 16 percent complete. Ms. Bechtol also noted that planning and design of the West Court was completed. The revitalized café and new restaurant in the West Court will increase food service capacity and reflect enhanced sustainability efforts at the Smithsonian. All three projects are scheduled for completion in June 2019.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

Deputy Director for Smithsonian Facilities Walter Ennaco, Ms. Bechtol, and Ms. Nauta-Rodriguez briefed the Committee on the status of the Smithsonian's major capital projects. Both the FCA and NCPC have favorably reviewed the South Mall Campus Master Plan, and a final hearing is scheduled for June 7, 2018. The first phase of exterior repairs to the Smithsonian Institution Building ("Castle") have been completed, and interior repair of moisture damage has begun. A number of improvements and new construction at the National Museum of the American Indian in New York are underway, including a new air handling unit, imagiNATIONS Activity Center, new retail store, and café. Renovations at the National Zoological Park are pursuing LEED-Gold certification and include a renewed police station, public restrooms, pavilion, utilities, centralized parking, and Bird House/Great Flight Aviary exhibit. The scope of the ongoing project at the Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute in Front Royal, VA, includes major infrastructure renewal of mechanical, electrical, fire alarm and life safety upgrades, roof and facade repairs, window replacement, accessibility improvements, restroom modernization, code compliance, and laboratory improvements. Lease negotiation and design of the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory Chandra Operations Control Center is finished, and build-out will start immediately. Construction completion of the new Gatun Lake elevation along the Barro Colorado Island shoreline at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama is on target for June 2018.

Mr. Horvath provided the Committee with an overview of the programmatic collaboration with the Victoria and Albert Museum ("V&A") in London. On April 9, the Board of Regents voted to execute the Joint Programmatic Agreement with the Victoria and Albert Museum for the purpose of developing and delivering Smithsonian-branded exhibitions and programming in a new museum to be built at the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The collaboration will have two components: (i) an 8,000 square foot co-curated and co-branded gallery, and (ii) a 10,000 square foot temporary exhibition gallery; however, the Smithsonian will not be responsible for the operation of the building or payment of any rentals.

Ms. Bechtol closed the major project updates with a review of the repairs to Smithsonian Institution buildings following the March 3, 2018 windstorm. Immediate roof repairs at four facilities were necessary following sustained winds generated by a severe nor'easter off the Mid-Atlantic and New England coasts.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no request for an executive session and with no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. McCarter, Jr., Chair