

## **MINUTES OF THE JULY 18, 2019, FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING**

The Facilities Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a meeting on July 18, 2019, at the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, D.C. Participating were Committee members Representative Lucille Roybal-Allard,\* Representative John Shimkus,\* Michael Govan,\* Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey,\* Robert MacDonald,\* and Lawrence C. Nussdorf. Facilities Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr. was unable to attend. In accordance with the Committee Charter, Executive Committee member Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey chaired the Committee meeting on behalf of Mr. McCarter.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol; Chief of Staff to the Secretary Greg Bettwy; Associate General Counsel Craig Blackwell; Chief of Staff to Representative Roybal-Allard Victor Castillo;\* Provost and Under Secretary for Museums, Education, and Research John Davis; Deputy Director for Smithsonian Facilities Walter Ennaco; Deputy Chief of Staff to the Regents Kate Forester; Inspector General Cathy Helm;\* Deputy Director for the Office of Planning, Design, and Construction Maria Delsasi; Assistant Secretary for Communications and External Affairs Julissa Marengo; Acting Under Secretary for Finance and Administration/Chief Operating Officer Mike McCarthy; Senior Adviser to Senator Leahy Kevin McDonald;\* Program Management Specialist for Smithsonian Facilities Tiffany Myers; and Director of the Office of Facilities Management and Reliability Rick Petito.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MAY 15, 2019, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the May 15, 2019, Committee meeting were approved without modification.

### **REVIEW OF COMMITTEE CHARTER**

The Committee reviewed its Charter per its mandate to annually review and assess the Charter and evaluate the Committee’s performance. No modifications to the Charter were proposed.

### **CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS**

Acting Under Secretary for Finance and Administration/COO Mike McCarthy updated the Committee on the status of the Consolidated Administrative Headquarters. Mr. McCarthy noted that the Institution has engaged the Smithsonian’s oversight committees in the House and Senate and is working with members of Congress to advance the approval process for the purchase of the Capital Gallery Building for the purposes of a consolidated administrative headquarters.

*\*Participated by telephone*

## **FACILITIES CAPITAL AND MAINTENANCE REPORT**

Deputy Director for the Office of Planning, Design, and Construction Maria Delsasi reported on the final fiscal year 2019 appropriation levels for Capital and Maintenance funding, as well as the fiscal year 2020 passback from the Office of Management and Budget (“OMB”), and the Smithsonian’s budget request for appropriated funds for fiscal year 2021. For fiscal year 2019, the Smithsonian received \$303.5 million in facilities capital, which included \$210 million for the revitalization of the National Air and Space Museum (“NASM”). Ms. Delsasi reported that the OMB passback for fiscal year 2020 has provided \$219 million in facilities capital, including \$100 million for the capital project at NASM. The Institution is also preparing to submit its fiscal year 2021 budget request to OMB, including narratives for the Smithsonian’s ongoing capital investment and deferred maintenance requirements. The Committee assessed the Smithsonian’s projected ten-year capital plan based upon federal funding levels and the new Secretary’s prioritization of revitalization and maintenance projects.

## **NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK AND SMITHSONIAN CONSERVATION BIOLOGY INSTITUTE**

Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol reviewed the progress of projects underway at the National Zoological Park (“NZIP”) and Smithsonian Conservation Biology Institute (“SCBI”), including renovations to the Bird House and Great Flight Aviary; renewal of the police station, public restrooms, conservation pavilion, and site utilities; and the first building for the bio-repository at Front Royal. Selective demolition and site work have begun at the Bird House and Great Flight Aviary. Construction of the police station and conservation pavilion is expected to be completed in September 2019, with both buildings currently tracking at the LEED Gold sustainability goal. Ms. Bechtol also shared that the renovation of Building 1 for the Bio-repository is behind on overall progress, but a recovery schedule is in effect and the project is tracking on goal for its LEED Silver sustainability status.

## **MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES**

Deputy Director for Smithsonian Facilities Walter Ennaco then gave an update on major capital projects at the National Museum of Natural History (“NMNH”). Construction progress of the Southside and Westside Entrance improvements, which includes the addition of ADA accessible entrances, is nearing completion. The goal to have one walkway completed and open to the public by the June 2019 Fossil Hall opening was met, while the West Side Walkway is scheduled to open in September 2019.

Mr. Ennaco also provided an overview of the building envelope and infrastructure projects taking place as part of the NASM revitalization. Phase one of artifact de-installation is 64 percent complete, including the temporary relocation of a Boeing 247D and the *Stargazer* aircraft, two of eight large artifacts to be de-installed for the renovation work. Mr. Ennaco also reviewed the job site security plan with the Committee.

Next, Mr. Ennaco updated the Committee on the status of the Dulles Collections Storage Module 1 at the Udvar-Hazy Center (“UHC”) in Chantilly, Virginia, which is now complete and

providing small, medium, and large artifact swing space during the NASM revitalization. A ribbon cutting for Storage Module 1 took place on June 28, 2019, to celebrate the opening. The final Certificate of Occupancy is expected in to be received in August 2019.

Ms. Delsasi then briefed the Committee on the revitalization of the Historic Core, which includes the Smithsonian Institution Building (“Castle”) and the Arts and Industries Building (“AIB”). The Smithsonian is currently undergoing interviews for architect engineering firms. The design contract is expected to be awarded by the end of fiscal year 2019. Design is slated for fiscal years 2020 through 2022, with construction beginning in fiscal year 2021.

The Committee also received an update on the proposed major capital project at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. The Sculpture Garden renovation is planned to address the deteriorating garden walls, potential replacement of waterproofing at the tunnel, and modifications to suit the current programmatic needs for sculpture display, performances, and public events. Concept design has been completed and the schematic design is expected to be awarded by the end of July 2019.

Ms. Delsasi informed the Committee that design of the National Native American Veterans Memorial at the National Museum of the American Indian, is 20 percent complete. Accelerated design, construction, and fabrication phases have been scheduled in order to complete the project in time for a November 11, 2020 opening.

To conclude, Mr. Ennaco updated the Committee on three projects at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. Rehabilitation of the mansion sidewalks was completed in June 2019, while restoration of the mansion conservatory, reached substantial completion in September 2019. Restoration of the mansion conservatory is ongoing with final design 35 percent complete and construction scheduled to begin in fiscal year 2021.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no request for an executive session and with no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey