

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 16, 2019, FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING

The Facilities Committee (“Committee”) of the Board of Regents (“Board”) of the Smithsonian Institution (“Smithsonian”) held a meeting on December 16, 2019, at the Smithsonian Castle in Washington, D.C. Participating were Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr.* and Committee members Representative John Shimkus,* Michael Govan,* Robert P. Kogod,* Risa J. Lavizzo-Mourey,* and Lawrence C. Nussdorf.

Also present by invitation of the Committee were Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol; Associate General Counsel Craig Blackwell; 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; Director of the National Museum of the American Indian Kevin Gover; Acting Deputy Under Secretary for Finance and Administration Doug Hall; Inspector General Cathy Helm;* Deputy Director for the Office of Planning, Design, and Construction Maria Delsasi; Special Assistant to the Regents Mallory Gianola (recorder); General Counsel Judith Leonard; Acting Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Operating Officer Mike McCarthy; Program Management Specialist for Smithsonian Facilities Tiffany Myers; Director of the Office of Facilities Management and Reliability Rick Petito; and Chief of Staff to the Regents Porter Wilkinson.*

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Chair John W. McCarter, Jr., called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and reviewed the agenda. Mr. McCarter recognized Regent Emeritus, Robert P. Kogod, and acknowledged his final meeting as a member of the Facilities Committee. Mr. Kogod served as the Founding Chair of the Committee from 2008 to 2017. The Committee expressed its deep appreciation for his outstanding leadership and immeasurable contributions to the Smithsonian Institution and the Board of Regents.

APPROVAL OF THE JULY 18, 2019, COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the July 18, 2019, Committee meeting were approved without modification.

CONSOLIDATED ADMINISTRATIVE HEADQUARTERS

Acting Under Secretary for Finance and Administration and Chief Operating Officer Mike McCarthy updated the Committee on the status of the Consolidated Administrative Headquarters. Mr. McCarthy reported that approval for the purchase of the Capital Gallery Building for the Smithsonian’s Consolidated Administrative Headquarters was expected to be included in the pending fiscal year 2020 budget legislation. In anticipation of the approval, planning has commenced with initial discussions focusing on the purchase agreement, facility due diligence (facility condition), and space planning. Mr. McCarthy reminded the Committee that senior leadership would consult with the Facilities Committee and the Finance Committee after final terms of the purchase are negotiated and before the purchase is effected.

* *Participated by telephone*

NATIONAL AIR AND SPACE MUSEUM REVITALIZATION

Director of Smithsonian Facilities Nancy Bechtol briefed the Committee on the National Air and Space Museum (“NASM”) restaurant replacement project. The \$62 million project, which will be funded by the Trust, is scheduled to coincide with the conclusion of the NASM revitalization project and full reopening of the museum in 2025. Design for the project is scheduled to take place in fiscal years 2020 and 2021. Ms. Bechtol noted that the final restaurant replacement would be brought to the Committee for approval.

FACILITIES CAPITAL AND MAINTENANCE REPORT

Deputy Director for the Office of Planning, Design, and Construction Maria Delsasi reported on the Federal Facilities Capital Program for fiscal years 2019 through 2021. For fiscal year 2019, the Smithsonian received \$303.5 million in facilities capital. The Institution is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution (“CR”) and awaiting the final appropriations legislation for fiscal year 2020. Ms. Delsasi reviewed six capital projects planned for fiscal year 2020 with budgets over \$5 million, including projects at the Smithsonian Institution Building (“Castle”), Arts and Industries Building, National Zoological Park, National Air and Space Museum, National Air and Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center, and Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden. The Committee was also briefed on the Capital Board Review status of projects planned for fiscal year 2021.

TOTAL FACILITIES REQUIREMENT

Director of the Office of Facilities Management and Reliability Rick Petito outlined the facilities maintenance funding requirements against the enacted and expected federal appropriations for fiscal years 2019 through 2021. In fiscal year 2019, the aggregate gap in maintenance funding totaled \$71 million. Mr. Petito also briefed the Committee on the preventative and predicative maintenance practices as part of the ten-year deferred maintenance program. The Smithsonian facilities maintenance budget request of two percent of the Institution-wide Current Replacement Value (“CRV”), valued at \$8.77 billion, will enable the Smithsonian to fulfill its mission and sustain facility capital and maintenance investment needs.

NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN VETERANS MEMORIAL

The Director of the National Museum of the American Indian Kevin Gover reviewed the design of the National Native American Veterans Memorial with the Committee. The memorial design was selected through a juried, two-stage, international design competition. The winning design team selected was BAU architects and artist Harvey Pratt; a citizen of the Cheyenne and Arapaho tribes who served in the Marine Corps in Vietnam. The design incorporates symbols and elements common to many native traditions, including the elements of fire, water, air, and earth with a centerpiece sculptural Warrior’s Circle.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the following motion:

VOTED that the Facilities Committee recommends that the Board of Regents approves the design, selected following a design competition held by the National Congress of American Indians and the National Museum of the American Indian, for the National Native American Veterans Memorial.

MAJOR CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

The Committee then received updates on the Smithsonian's major capital projects. Ms. Bechtol began the update with the ongoing projects at the National Museum of Natural History ("NMNH"). Construction progress of the Southside Entrance improvements, which include making the entrance ADA compliant, is nearing completion. Delays in the fabrications of the bronze railings have pushed the project completion date to 2020.

Ms. Bechtol also provided an overview of the building envelope and infrastructure projects taking place as part of the National Air and Space Museum revitalization. Construction is approximately 16 percent complete, and revitalization of the building envelope is expected to begin in March 2020. Approximately half of the building remains open to the public, while the remaining 50 percent is under full renovation.

The Committee was briefed on the revitalization of the Historic Core, which includes the Smithsonian Institution Building ("Castle") and the Arts and Industries Building ("AIB"). The Smithsonian selected an architect engineering firm in October 2019, and the programming study is expected to be completed in January 2020.

Next, Ms. Bechtol provided an update on the replacement of the mansion cooling plant at the Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. The new chilled water system for the Carnegie Mansion will replace an unserviceable cooling plant. Construction is in the final phase, with full project completion expected in March 2020.

Ms. Bechtol informed the Committee that the survey study and design was completed for the replacement of four heating, ventilation, and air conditioning air handling units at the National Museum of the American Indian—New York, the George Gustav Heye Center. The initial construction is scheduled to begin in 2021.

To conclude, Ms. Bechtol shared that the site and security improvement project at the Anacostia Community Museum is complete and the museum reopened to the public on October 13, 2019. The project has greatly enhanced the visitor experience with upgrades to the parking area, landscaping, and museum entrance, which have improved accessibility, security, and provided educational program opportunities for community engagement.

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,

John W. McCarter, Jr., Chair