Memorial Union Reinvestment
Design Committee Meeting #10
Meeting Minutes 2010-2011
Beefeaters – Memorial Union

Members

Patrick Callan, Union President  X  John Staley, UW Faculty/Staff Rep  X
Paul Davidsaver, Student Project Manager  X  Mark Haebig, UW Alumni Rep (MUBA)  X
Stephanie Phillips, Student Appointee  X  Tom Smith, UW Alumni Rep (MUBA)  X
Brittney RathSack, Student Appointee  X  Kiley Grose, ASM Chair Designee  X
John Skic, Student Appointee  X  Jennifer Limbach, ASM Appointee  X
Mark Guthier, Union Director  X  Kelsey Gergen, ASM Appointee  X
Hank Walter, Union Associate Director  X  Brian Borkovec, ASM Appointee  X
John Sharpless, UW Faculty/Staff Rep  X  Ted Crabb, Emeritus Director, Ex-Officio  X

Guests: Del Wilson, Design Principal – Uihlein Wilson, Jake Immel, Office Assistant, Director’s Office, 2010-2011 WUD Committee Directors.

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<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>DISCUSSION</th>
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<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>Mr. Davidsaver called the meeting called to order on December 08, 2010 at 6:20 p.m.</td>
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<td>Open Forum</td>
<td>No one came forth with items for discussion.</td>
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| Design Review Board (DRB) Recap | Mr. Wilson, the lead architect from Uihlein Wilson, was present to speak on behalf of the company. Design drawings were handed out and are available for viewing by request from Mr. Davidsaver. The architects met today with the Design Review Board (DRB) for the first time. For reference, all future campus projects must be overseen by the group, which will focus on a project’s impact to relevant urban areas of campus. The architects are required to meet three times with the DRB, which will present different aspects of progression as they relate to the group’s interest.  
- **First meeting:** Introduce the project and determine what aspects of the project interest DRB.  
- **Second meeting:** Find concurrence on design strategy and solutions.  
- **Third meeting:** Final approval of design criterion.  

Design drawings are relevant, but change almost immediately after printing. The DRB is pleased with the current desires of incorporating Memorial Union’s area (Terrace, Park Street, Langdon Street, Lot 1/Alumni Park, etc.) in relation to the building.
Ms. Limbach asked if the DRB’s scope was more concerned with effects of campus life or functionality of the building in terms of its relation to buildings and facilities surrounding the Union. Mr. Wilson responded that a combination of the two concerns with an emphasis placed on what happens with people entering the building and the exterior, any changes to bus, moped, or pedestrian is what DRB is most interested in.

Mr. Davidsaver re-clarified that schematic designs change immediately after they are printed, therefore drafts will not be shared anymore due to:

1. In open records, drafts are not covered by. They are not official policy and in the case of this project they are often not accurate.
2. The committee will need to follow Facilities Planning & Management (FPM) policy on disseminating drafts for security reasons.

The Design Committee will continue to have plan drafts available at meetings, with interest groups, and town halls, but will not be posting them online. Hard copies will also be available in the project office at Memorial Union.

Presentation of Workshop 8 drawings and current design ideas:

**Basement:**
- The kitchen does not work in the current area. Space availability is being discussed.
- Demolishing the connector to the theatre wing will allow the building to have a better flow and floor relation.
- WUD/Hoofers – Basic area designs are to test the “fit” of space. It will gradually become more detailed. Directorate does not fit within the space, but Hoofers with expansion does.
- Potential gallery storage located near the central elevator. This is not the final location, but close proximity to the elevator is a benefit.

Mr. Davidsaver added that shown space designation is incorrect but will fit in the space provided.
First Floor:
– Further study will be done on a Theater Pre-function location in relation to sun position throughout the day. A 3D simulation will be put together and shown to the committee.
– The focal point around Der Stiftskeller is being discussed and placed, as an entrance to the building will be located here. A food idea (coffee, ice cream, etc.) is being tested to enhance overall experience.

Mr. Borkovec requested clarification regarding the “open to below” detail for the proposed rehearsal room. Mr. Davidsaver answered by stating it will be given two floors. The area needs to provide support to the third floor. It is currently a rehearsal room with a need for openness. If not, there is no structural need for the open space.

Mr. Sharpless asked how beer storage and pumping operation would work and Mr. Walter replied that it is under discussion. Smaller and more distributed storage areas as well as refrigeration management are being researched. A UW alumnus invented a system of beverage distribution and is being incorporated into discussion.

Mr. Crabb also asked if there was a reason in closing the Park Street entrance and replacing it as a bus waiting station. He noted if bus pickup could change, contacting Madison Metro is necessary due to rule adherence. Mr. Davidsaver agreed and added that changing Route 80/85’s stop is not a current desire, but re-routing the Play Circle’s emergency exit has been brought up.

Second Floor:
– Architects have proposed to move the Class of 1925 art gallery. More space is needed to support Tripp Commons and the Main Lounge.
– Suggestion to split the galleries and place the Class of 1925 art gallery in the connector area near the Play Circle; rejected using the Profile space cannot as a gallery.
– Green area is meant to show WUD and their
The architects stated the lowest level WUD can be placed is on the third floor due to accessibility. Keeping the group as one solid area is the intention as it is currently broken up on the fifth floor. Further discussion and spatial design with WUD and architects will take place.

Mr. Davidsaver requested that Ms. Gergen take the matter back to the Art Interest Group for discussion as to the pros/cons of splitting the galleries, and she agreed. Ms. Limbach asked if there had been any talk of changing the relevant fire exit, where Mr. Wilson responded “no,” but it could be brought up in the future.

Fourth Floor:
- Introducing a service corridor to better assist the Great hall.
- Hotel Rooms – A financial incentive does exist to keep at least 6 rooms as discussed and voted on by architects and design executives. Alumni have expressed appreciation of the feeling of an “alumni dorm.”

Fifth Floor:
- Potentially moving Accounting to this floor.
- New space exists – Historical Society approved the area for addition.
- Terraces could be added. One available to Union members and another for WUD access only.

The idea of additional terraces topic brought up concern. Mr. Staley asked if the roof areas are strong enough for use and Mr. Smith questioned if the terrace areas could be enclosed. Mr. Wilson answered that the roof is strong enough and that deviating from terrace construction would be inconsistent with building/concept preservation. Mr. Crabb and others agreed that flat roofs pose a serious problem for construction of terraces or other units, as they are prone to leaks and take a lot of time and money for maintenance.

Mr. Davidsaver ended discussion of the fifth floor and opened the floor for general discussion.
Mr. Crabb expressed an idea for a third floor enclosure via “linkage” of the central area which would keep all 5 floors and each wing of the floor accessible. Mr. Wilson answered that the idea is considerable. The area is not identified as “new space” for expansion, but the question can be raised in a future meeting with building consultants.

Mr. Staley asked for clarification regarding the issue of women’s bathroom facilities on the third floor. The impression was that this space was to be reallocated. Mr. Wilson confirmed that the space will be reassigned and that it was omitted in the design. Mr. Davidsaver added that space under the grand staircase might be used to replace the women’s facility.

Mr. Sharpless noted in the first floor design, it will be necessary to walk through the servery area to get to the bathroom area. Mr. Davidsaver said that a connecting hallway is being planned for construction to the Lakefront on Langdon which will ease travel to and from these areas.

Mr. Crabb also brought up the idea of adding an airlock on the west side of Der Rathskeller. Mr. Davidsaver added it for consideration.

Mr. Smith requested further description of dishwashing units added. Mr. Davidsaver responded that this will be a new addition to Dining Services on the first floor. The units are planned to stay in the current area, but may be moved as design continues.

Mr. Borkovec asked if space designation to the servery was appropriate. Mr. Walter answered that if the Union wants the area to be financially successful, the area needs to be set to this approximate size and that a smaller area would not be able to handle busy lunchtime traffic.

Mr. Davidsaver called for a motion to approve the progress and design direction, whereas Mr. Walter MOVED and Mr. Borkovec SECONDED.
### Loading Dock Update

Mr. Davidsaver followed by opening the floor for discussion. Hearing none, he called the question. The vote passed **15:0**.

Mr. Wilson gave a presentation updating the committee on a potential loading dock design. Yellow and outlined space in schematic designs is open as space that can be captured for construction. Area under the loading dock shows circulation space that will be left unused about 95% of the time.

Discussion of a potential for a turntable to be installed which can rotate vehicles into proper loading docks and free 6,000-7,000 square feet of expected underground construction. The idea will save space, truck traffic in Alumni Park and pedestrian areas, and better utilize space. It also poses a solution for Memorial Union, the Red Gym, and the Pyle Center to drastically reduce traffic caused by above ground loading docks. Mr. Davidsaver reported estimated cost at $750,000, and savings at $1,000,000 if using a turntable.

### Discussion

Mr. Smith inquired what would happen if the turntable failed. Mr. Wilson noted the turntable would be very efficient and use little energy to operate. If it were to fail, trucks will need to back out. Although not a legally deemed action by the city, emergency instances are allowed for backup procedures.

Ms. Gergen also offered approval of the idea and requested further clarification in connecting the Pyle Center and Red Gym stations to Memorial Union. Mr. Davidsaver said that pickup from both venues would occur in the underground space and accommodate some general building tasks, e.g. dumpster storage. Mr. Wilson also added that it offers a connection for catering events at the Pyle Center.

Mr. Crabb asked if the size of trucks arriving at Memorial Union needs to be confirmed for the turntable operation as larger trucks should be locating to Union South. Mr. Walter said a small number will still do activity here, but the size will be more like smaller trucks seen on campus.

Mr. Sharpless posed a question about water accumulation in the underground area. Mr. Wilson said that systems are in
place for each underground option to alleviate the issue.

Mr. Smith further inquired about the headroom for movement of trash containers and Mr. Wison said it has been taken into account.

Ms. Limbach questioned the size of trucks the new design could accommodate and area of possible addition to Alumni Park seen on the design. Mr. Davidsaver stated that larger trucks can use the theatre station to unload but occurs at most a few times per year. Limited parking spots underground is in all three plans for operation vehicles. A coach bus could be parked in the space if needed. The Alumni Park area shows a grade change, no addition.

Mr. Smith requested ideas for handicap access with Alumni Park. Mr. Davidsaver reported the issue does not lie within the Design Committee’s bounds, but that engineers know these areas currently exist, are important, and should be kept in the design process.

Mr. Davidsaver ended discussion for the Loading Dock and surrounding area.

There are 8 total options of design for the Fredrick March Play Circle. The interest group met and chose two designs for consideration along with a third as backup plan.

Mr. Smith asked what the Play Circle’s outlook will be in upcoming years. Mr. Davidsaver answered that the Union Theatre will host productions and large scale events and the Play Circle will entail small scale events, rehearsal space, and other flexibility options. Recent survey results showed that students would like to see comedy, drama, and other genres of play performance.

Mr. Davidsaver presented the results of a recent Design Committee survey sent to students, faculty/staff, and Union members asking for opinion on various aspects of the
Survey Results

Memorial Union Reinvestment project:

- People on campus who use Memorial Union less than once a month is due to their location on campus. Many of these responses came from Camp Randall, Engineering area, which shows favorable to Union South’s opening.
- Parking is a big concern. Not much can be done to increase it. The survey numbers concerning this can be shared with Transportation Services, who hope to add parking space once the Humanities building is rebuilt. A need showed for Union drop off/pickup locations.
- Socializing aspects ranked highly, especially the Terrace and food/beverage areas.
- Computer kiosks are frequently used. The same number or more were requested.
- In a survey from 2005, descriptive Memorial Union words were formal, classic/traditional, and iconic. This survey resulted lakeside, Madison, and social. They will be incorporated into further marketing/branding opportunities.
- Room reservation showed no problems booking rooms for meetings/events.
- Service usage/addition patterns of interest:
  - Add a Babcock Dairy Store – might include this in the new marketplace.
  - Add a bus stop lounge.
  - Add a Postal Service counter/stamp ATM mailing drop off station.
  - Current lounging space is good.
  - Keep hourly parking (if possible).
  - More bike parking.
  - More quiet and group study space.
  - A DoIT Tech store showed no appeal.
  - Craftshop has little knowledge/presence with students/members.
  - Play Circle/Union Theatres received mixed results of use, present and future.
  - Add television/Digital advertisements in various locations.
  - Add a small computer lounge/laptop.
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charging station – not a computer lab. Further questions and Executive Summary requests can be directed to Mr. Davidsaver.

Ms. Phillips, Ms. Rathsack, and Mr. Walter commented on their overall trip to a Chicago yacht club, a Milwaukee rowing club, the Summerfest grounds, and a river walk.

One thing many noted was the river walk artwork was fascinating. Ms. Limbach asked how the art was different from what the Union contains. Attendees responded that it reminisced of the Union Theatre. Much of it included painted, sculpture, copper, movable, and metal artwork on walls even though it was outdoors.

Ms. Rathsack noted that the indoor/outdoor seating areas were offered and very nice. This could be an idea for use in the Lakefront/Rathskeller.

Mr. Walter added that there were some winter activity and outdoor performance/event space ideas that can be noted for potential use.

Mr. Davidsaver submitted minutes from the September 14th, October 18th, and November 10th Design Committee meetings for review and approval. He called for a motion to accept them as submitted, Mr. Smith MOTIONED and Ms. Rathsack SECONDED. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Smith reported that the event was very well organized. More than 100 people showed up for 1:00p.m. and 5:00p.m. tours and had great questions. Interest was kept up throughout each tour and during the sit-down Q&A session afterward with the architects. Also of note was the delicious cake and root beer served.

Ms. Rathsack stated she was surprised with the faculty/staff and student turnout. Attendees of note included an Associate Dean from the Law School, Chancellor Martin’s Event Coordinator, representation from the School of Journalism, and various faculty employees along with their spouses. Numerous news and media reporters were on hand from the area.
Mr. Sharpless noted a journalism group project that took place at the event. He noted interest of contacting those involved to be able to view the completed project. Mr. Davidsaver added that he will make an attempt to do so and gain the possibility of adding a portion of the video project to the University/Memorial Union Reinvestment website.

Mr. Davidsaver made a note of an event on Friday, December 10th, at 1:00p.m. in the Play Circle. Karen Husimann will perform a self-written, one-woman comedy show. It is free and will provide a Building Project Q&A along with refreshments following the event.

Mr. Davidsaver adjourned the meeting without objection at 8:45p.m.