Memorial Union Reinvestment
Design Committee Meeting
August 10, 2013
Meeting Minutes 2013-2014

| Neil Damron      | X | Sophie Hackman | X |
| Katie Cary       | X | Annie Paul     | X |
| Mark Guthier     | X | Ellen Hildebrand | X |
| Hank Walter      | X | Kristin Roskopf | X |
| Tom Smith        |   | Dave Ciewslewick | X |
| Juli Aulik       | X | Anjali Bhasin  |   |
| William Mulligan | X | Ted Crabb      | X |
| Claire Jennings  | X | Mark Bennett   | X |

Guests: Nathalie McFadden, Director’s Office Assistant

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<tr>
<th>TOPIC</th>
<th>DISCUSSION</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Call to Order</td>
<td>Mr. Damron called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.</td>
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<td>Open Forum</td>
<td>Mr. Wilson from Choy Tae Known Do stated that he is concerned about removing the In Wisconsin room and other like spaces. There is a deficit for spaces like this on campus for dance and other kinds of groups. He went on to say that his group feels like their group, and other similar groups, were ignored when Union South was being built. Mr. Walter asked what makes In Wisconsin so special. Mr. Wilson noted that it is the size, and while there are rooms available, there are more groups than rooms so it is very difficult to reserve the room.</td>
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<td>Approval of Minutes</td>
<td>Mr. Damron noted that there were spelling errors which have been corrected. Mr. Crabb asked what the correct term for organization that is responsible for the preservation. Ms. Aulik stated that she believes that the correct term is the “State Historical Preservation Office.” Mr. Crabb also noted the correct working is: People to have “access to and from the terrace.”</td>
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| Reminders            | Mr. Damron moved to approve the minutes with the above changes
                       All in favor of the changes                                                                 | Motion Passes |
|                      | Mr. Damron noted that in order to keep the discussion moving, each person should raise their hand when they have questions, and there will be one follow up question to keep |          |
everything moving. Note that at this meeting there are no decision items. The purpose of this meeting is to ask questions, get updates and set ourselves up to make informed decisions next time. Ms. Cary noted that the next meeting will be decision packed so this meeting is to set us up to make these decisions. Hopefully at the meeting there won’t be many new things to see.

**Public Input Session (9/09/13):** Ms. Cary stated that the public information session went really well.

*Coffee House:* People are really excited about the second floor, they asked questions about the logistics of the staircase, liked the connection to alumni park, a desire to create bigger views to alumni park and the red gym, opening up the south east corner entrance, much cleaner and grander, people were concerned about losing larger rooms for dance and martial arts groups, many expressed a desire match up the aesthetic with the rest of the historic Union, along with a desire for an information center in the south east corner.

*Terrace:* People had questions about the stage and the visibility, there were opposing view-points of where the stage should be, some were concerned about the angling of the stage, the upper terrace is a space away from some of the action, many don’t want the canopy to block sunsets, most liked the trees as long as views are not blocked, individuals were concerned that the stage would be too close to the brat stand, and some had questions regarding lighting from Langdon to the lakeshore path.

*First Floor:* Many were worried that the Rathskellar corridor would be congested by lines, and do not want lines to block way to terrace, many were also worried restrooms are too far from terrace and restaurant.

*General Comments:* Several people asked if there were family or unisex bathrooms, some individuals asked if there would be an Alumni or grad student lounge space similar to the School of Education lounge space, many expressed the need for 2 ATMs if not more and desire for email stations, there was a general desire to make the Tripp deck more open to the public when it is not being used.

Mr. Cieslewicz asked if there is a website where public can leave comments. Ms. Cary said they are working on that and it should be up soon.
### Design Updates:

**Terrace:** Bill W. Stated that the design team is breaking up the terrace in order to eliminate the need for guard rails, this will create more rectilinear shape which people thought was too harsh. They are now trying to soften this up with use of a curved wall and some planters. People at the workshop were concerned about how the landscape was treated in such high traffic areas.

**Results From the Workshop:** A desire to make the stairs more vertical in front of the stage.

**Feedback:** Mr. W noted that the team could not show Alumni Park at the workshop because it has not been approved by WAA board. Mr. Crabb asked about the interface between the two. Mr. W explained that his team has started to soften the lines between the two, and that it will also be connected at mid level through the parks by a sidewalk which will help blur the line. He went on to say that there is also a much more graceful entry sequence in the southeast corner. Other than that, not much else has changed. They have put the stage on the west side to maximize number of people who could see the stage, which will be set up so the performers will be faced toward the middle of the terrace. Accessibility between mid-levels has also been looked at along with tree placement regarding views of sunset and the change, and seating in both the sun and the shade. Mr. Crabb asked if there will be a fixed wall on the far side of the stage. Mr. W stated that it would be a concrete wall, which will perhaps be used for storage. Mr. S noted that it has not been taken to the next level regarding the canopy and acoustics, and that there will probably be some sort of covering. Food service on the lake side is still being weighed, which will be discussed more thoroughly at upcoming meetings. Mr. Crabb stated he was glad to hear they are still studying the walls of the stage. Mr. Cieslewicz asked about the details of the wall. Mr. W stated that there will be a wall from the stage level down, from there up will be transparent. Ms. Cary noted the image of the canopy is still conceptual. Mr. W noted that it is slightly west of where it is now. Mr. Mulligan asked if the elevation of the stage will be changed. Mr. W said no. Mr. Guthier noted that students were concerned that acts cannot be seen from the terrace because is only 18 inches above. Mr. W stated that there will be no differences regarding views of the sunset,
and there will be improved acoustics. Ms. Aulik stated that comments from last night should be considered, especially regarding brat stand traffic and the sunset, and whether we are disserving the upper terrace. She went on to ask if the stage could be moved to the east. Mr. W stated that the further east it is, the less people are served, also the most circulation will be on the east side along with ramping, the team also went with the largest area in front of the stage. Mr. Crabb asked about the amount of space in the east side that was taken up by the ramps and filling it with food service, we need to be careful that it is not a service area. Mr. W stated they are working on the balance of everything right now, currently there is nowhere else for the ramps to go. He went on to say that the big thing that happened is that the entire north east corner is now at the first floor, usable level. Ms. Hackman asked what visibility will be like in regards to watching movies, because it is often hard to see over other people. Mr. W noted that the grade change will be slightly different than it is currently, they are also looking at how movies are shown-what the best vantage point would be. Ms. Cary noted that the food service area in the east end would not take away seating.

South East Corner: At the last meeting and workshop, two seating options were provided. The option shown here was selected, however, there is still an issue regarding the historic stair in the corner which the preservation office is concerned about. At the last meeting, the mechanical room went across entire front half of the building. Now, the mechanical room sits underneath. The Historic Preservation Office would like to preserve historical stair and how it looks. The only change is pulling the stair away from the building to allow ADA regulations. They have also increased the number of bikes along with adding two outdoor terraces. Mr. Crabb asked if trees will be planted. Mr. W said trees will be planted to preserve historic view and to provide shade. There will be a couple of ADA ramps going up to the front door. There will also be opportunities for tabling when semesters start. Mr. Cieslewicz asked what the number of bike stalls is. Mr. W said there are more than there are currently. Mr. Cieslewicz asked if this includes the bike parking that was lost during phase one. Mr. W. stated that there will be more biking
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spots. Mr. Cieslewicz asked for the exact number, and went on to ask if they considered an underground bike parking lot with a maintenance station similar to Millennium Park because the Terrace is a huge destination for bicycles, he also noted that parking them in front of the building is not an attractive solution. Mr. W stated that there is nowhere to do this, however there are several places to park bikes. Ms. Paul agreed that she does not like that there are bike stations on both sides of the South East Entrance. Mr. W noted that it is important that people know how to get to the bike parking. Mr. S stated that historical society liked that there were two stations. Mr. Mulligan asked if there would be kiosks. Mr. W said there would be. Mr. Crabb asked what the area to the west of the steps is where steps dead end. Mr. W noted that this relationship is required by WSHS. Mr. Crabb stated that those stairs were built to provide access to parking lot which is no longer there.

Dining services: Mr. S stated that is team is reimagining the entire east end of the building, although, there are certain areas that need to be maintained including the Rathskellar. One idea is to potentially create a long corridor from Langdon through the Rathskellar which will also double duty as Rathskellar server. The big concept in the far east is coming into the entrance (this is a diagram): Peet’s coffee, Badger Market, Fresh Express, a central prep space concealed as much as possible, an entry to alumni park, the Daily Scoop with window access to the park, a new street inside the building that opens up to the park, an Italian restaurant and an Asian restaurant which will back up into a prep space, and a counter space closer to the terrace for easy access, alfresco dining to make openings to the outside for indoor/outdoor dining—currently deciding how permeable those walls will be. There will also be numerous spaces for seating throughout the east side. This all impacts the design of the Terrace. Ms. Jennings asked if seating will be lost in LOL, where it is already difficult to find seating. Mr. S said he does not have the counts with him but there will be around 350, which does not include seating in the Rat. There will also be seating within the Italian and Asian restaurants. Ms. Cary noted that the seating area will not be as giant, but total seating numbers will be similar to now. Ms. Jennings
asked if there will be full or partial walls. Mr. S noted that it will be similar to Union South and will be very transparent. However, there are still things to consider. Ms. Cary stated that they also need to look at codes. Ms. Paul noted how important the studying aspect is for LOL and this should be considered, very important to have casual, normal heights for tables. Mr. Cieslewicz noted that the space seems successful now, why do we need to change it. Mr. S noted that a large food study was done which showed how successful Union South is. Mr. Guthier stated that it is not financially successful so something dramatic needs to be done. Mr. Cieslewicz asked if students will feel welcome walking in there. Mr. Guthier noted that they feel comfortable at Union South. Ms. Hackman noted that for study space, it is necessary that it is not associated with the restaurants. Mr. S said this area will be multi use, not just for dining, it is meant to be very casual. Ms. Cary noted a seating plan will be brought next time. Mr. W noted that the north east space will be separate space in the winter time because of the climate control. Mr. Crabb noted he was concerned about the space that is available for the Daily Dcoop in terms of traffic and waiting for service. He also noted the need to provide an information booth at this end of the building—both for information and security. He went on to say that he is worried that the number of restrooms will not serve the number of people there. Mr. S noted that in order to make everyone happy things have been moved further west. They are thinking of expanding the number of restrooms—someone’s program space needs to be taken away. Ms. Cary noted that the first floor is currently over programmed on the east side. Ms. Paul noted that there is a quiet communal study space by the fireplace in the Union South. Mr. Bennett noted that the main lounge is currently very underutilized, therefore students wanting to study could be directed there. Mr. Mulligan asked about the additional energy costs regarding the permeable wall. Mr. S stated they are doing a study to look at this, he noted that the glass wall has not been changed since 1956.

Coffee House Concept: The team is considering creating a coffee deck on the second floor and potentially creating a spiral staircase to the second floor to make it more
welcoming. This will be aesthetically pleasing and not too modern. There is a need to discuss how the historical society will feel about this. Ms. Paul stated that she really likes it. Ms. Jennings agreed that I will bring more people up to the second floor. Mr. S noted that this is different from the 15% plan-specifically the bathrooms on the east side. Ms. Hackman asked if there are bathrooms on that side on the second floor. Mr. S showed where the bathrooms would be-they have been moved back to where they will be today-increased number and quality. Mr. Guthier asked if people would use it. Students agreed that they would use it. Ms. Hackman asked where Peets is. Mr. S stated that Peet’s will be in the direct southeast corner, there will also be seating at Peet’s. Mr. Crabb noted that we should not block the view of Peet’s from down the hall so it can be successful.

2nd and 3rd floor plans: Mr. S noted that the far-east staircase interferes with current desires, so they are thinking about moving it out to the far-east in order to program it. Profile room will have a fixed wall but then also some permeable walls, so it can function in different ways. There will still be a serving kitchen which will not have a connection to main lounge. There will also be a coffee deck which can be separated because of the stairs if there are events.

Third floor: Old Madison will be maintained. There is a strong desire to have five meeting spaces on this floor. Also have to accommodate AV, a mechanical room, restrooms and a kitchen. They are putting the meeting rooms on the perimeter and recreating Beefeaters. The bathrooms, kitchen, mechanical and kitchen will be in the center area, which will serve parts of 2nd and 4th floors as well. Mr. Walter asked if both restrooms could be put together and move mechanical north. Mr. S noted that mechanical room needs a certain height so it cannot be moved north, potentially, both bathrooms could be on the north. Mr. Crabb stated that both restrooms need to be moved south if possible. Mr. S noted that this floor is over programmed so something has got to give. Mr. Crabb requested that the team study it to see if it is at all possible. Mr. Bennett and Ms. Aulik agreed that the big glass box was not terribly architectural. Ms. Aulik stated that she loved the continuous nature of the terrace on that side of the building.
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Announcements

the building currently. There is a need to maximize access on that side of the building especially with Alumni Park. Mr. S stated that there are some code issues that have to be dealt with, they are currently trying to make this building code compliant. He went on to say that the box will come down to the first floor. Ms. Cary noted that the glass box will allow individuals to walk into Tripp Deck when Tripp Commons is closed for events.

Basement & Mechanical Space: They are currently looking at consolidating everything to work together, especially with head space, utilities, storage and other needs. Do not want fumes and exhaust to come up. Food service offices will now consolidated on east side. They have also looked at the number of deliveries going to the Pyle center-potential overlap. Therefore, they are looking at creating three active bays in the dock. Union fleet vehicles will not always go to Pyle, so one bay will be used for parking to open up room for offices. There will be a compressed dock and mechanical area, and consolidated food programs. They have also looked at break rooms, staff restrooms and lounges. Mr. Crabb asked if Mr. Walter’s people were happy with this. Mr. Walter stated that it is not quite resolved yet. Mr. S stated that he has challenged them to look at what they really need. The team has also changed the way beer comes in. There will be some sort of intervention on the roof for mechanical units on 2nd, 3rd and 4th floor which requires fresh air intake-avoiding window air conditioners (currently 33 different types of air conditioners-will move it down to 14) lining it up with other things on the far east side. Need to stay far away from kitchen exhaust.

Ms. Cary announced architectural workshops next week and that she will let everyone know. If they cannot make those times, the following week (September 23) there will be a supplemental meeting regarding updates, so by the 30th, nothing will be brand new. Ms. Hackman asked if decision items could be sent out so we know what to talk about. Ms. Cary stated that the items should also be on the website. Mr. Damron anticipates that the meeting will probably go late because there are many crucial decisions being made next meeting. Mr. Guthier stated committee would like to see a
## Adjournment

Seating plan, including comparisons to current numbers.

Mr. Damron adjourned the meeting at 8:07 PM.