Facilities Planning & Management
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN–MADISON

MEETING NOTES

Meeting Location:	Virtual	Project:	Design Review Board – September 2025
Date/Time:	9/16/25 – 9:00am	Re:	DRB Meeting Notes
Notes By:	Janine Glaeser, UW-Madison FP&M, CPLA	File:	P:\SHARE\Design Review Board\2025 MEETINGS\09-16-25 MTG\

Agenda (In Person):

1. **Music Hall Renovation #0485-2501**
   Preliminary Design Review – DRB #1

2. **Athletics Hall of Fame #22D5A**
   Preliminary Design Review – DRB #1 Introduction

Committee Attendees:

Heidi Natura
Mary Czynszak-Lyne
Kevin Firchow
Rafeeq Asad
Terry Steelman
Tonia Pittman – Arrived 10am
Ex Officio: Scott Utter
Ex Officio: Peter Schlecht
Staff: Janine Glaeser

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES

May 20th DRB Meeting Notes were approved.

- Czynszak-Lyne motioned to approve; Steelman seconded motion

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

- None

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

- Utter read the Land Acknowledgement

DRB Item #1: : Music Hall Renovation & Addition #0485-2501
Preliminary Design Review - DRB #1 Informational Presentation

Attendees:

- Bo Muwahid, FP&M PM
- Tim Peters, KieranTimerlake
- Stephen Kieran,
- Jason Smith,
- Lisa Ellinger, La Follette
- Fawn Behrens-Smith, L&S
- Lexie Baslington, FP&M
- Gabe Mendez,
- Casey Ward,
- Paula Veltum, Real Estate FP&M
- Aaron Williams, CPLA FP&M
- Jonathan Bronk, CPLA FP&M
- Van Van Wyk II, CPD FP&M
- Sadie Derouin,

Project Introduction: The UW LaFollette School of Public Affairs (LFS) is working with KieranTimberlake Architects and InSite Consulting on a plan to renovate and preserve the existing Music Hall and construct a new 3-story addition to the south. The scope of work will encompass a comprehensive renovation of the facility will include architectural, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, plumbing, site, and landscaping upgrades. The building will be brought up to all applicable state building, health, safety and environmental codes, and federal requirements such as the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The project will follow the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties.

DRB Review History:

- DRB #1 9/16/25

Project Schedule:

- Schematic Design Fall 2025
- Bid Documents Fall 2026
- Construction Start Winter 2026
- Completion February 2029

DRB comments:

- Schlecht comments:
  - Reviewed proposed phasing, schedule, and funding for orientation
  - Opened the floor for questions
- Czynszak-Lyne's comments:
  - Complemented design
  - Inquired about accessible parking on Lathrop Street and the clock tower's operational status.
    - Schlecht replied noting the project team is still working on site development, including accessibility and deliveries.
    - Design Team: the clock tower will be operational as part of project

        - Asked about Phase 1 funding
            - Schlecht confirmed it's supported by gifts and grants
- Steelman Comments:
    - Commended the design's respect for the historic façade.
    - Requested clarification on vertical circulation and elevator placement across phases.
        - Design Team: There is an accessible connection in both phases. Library elevator is a split-level elevator.
    - Program dependency between phase 1 and 2
        - Design Team: Still in development – existing building will have the collab commons and auditorium. Library is where staff offices are. Addition is primarily classrooms and staff offices.
    - Expressed interest in façade materials and roof accessibility.
        - Design Team: We do have plans to make the roof accessible
- Natura Comments:
    - Applauded the massing, spatial hierarchy, and public engagement.
    - Highlighted the importance of Lathrop connection and roofline alignment.
    - Suggested expanding the courtyard and emphasized the visual impact of the overpass on street-level experience.
- Firchow Comments:
    - Appreciated the project's ambition.
    - Raised concerns about the Park Street façade's prominence and its alignment with the historic structure.
    - Encouraged careful integration of the second-story addition.
        - Design Team: Second floor addition- agree – point of connection between addition and renovation has to be governed by how we tie in. do not want to cut off an arch. Massing model shows it too close – we'll want to increase space between the two. We'll want to study further.
        - Design Team: Addition aligns with the existing façade. Addition references historic lines on the existing façade. More work to come – Historic roofline will remain visible and dominant. Historic view is undisturbed.
- Asad Comments:
    - Endorsed comments made by Steelman and Firchow.
- Utter comments:
    - No Comments

Public Comment:

- Fawn Behrens-Smith – new facilities director – Expressed enthusiasm for the project and appreciation for being included.

DRB Item #2: : Hall of Fame Relocation Plan #22D5A
Schematic Design Review - DRB #1

Attendees:

- Casey Ward, UW FP&M PM
- Jim Hinze, Berners Schober
- J Blue, SmithGroup
- William Hauri, Athletics
- Barry Fox, Athletics

- Jeremy Schecterle, JP Cullen
- Lexie Baslington, FP&M
- Molly Lenz, FP&M
- Gabe Mendez,
- Casey Ward,
- Paula Veltum, Real Estate FP&M
- Aaron Williams, CPLA FP&M
- Jonathan Bronk, CPLA FP&M
- Van Van Wyk II, CPD FP&M
- Sadie Derouin,
- Brenda Gonzolez, University of Relations

Project Introduction: The UW Athletics Department is proposing to relocate the existing Hall of Fame from the original location adjacent to the former shell to a new location.

DRB Review History:

- DRB #1 9/16/25

Project Schedule:

- Schematic Design Fall 2025
- Bid Documents Fall 2026
- Construction Start Winter 2026
- Completion February 2029

DRB comments:

- Steelman Comments:
    - Supported the concept but raised concerns about the 10-foot wall height being overwhelming.
    - Suggested exploring longer, lower configurations.
        - Design Team: The grade is dropping as move north. We wanted plaques in a place so they could be read.
- Czynszak-Lyne's comments:
    - Questioned the 22-foot spacing between walls and expressed safety concerns due to low lighting.
    - Highlighted potential climbing risks.
        - Design Team: Adding a glow to the walls. Replace existing lights with more directional lighting to cast light on Kohl and the walls. Intent is for this space to be used at night.
- Utter comments
    - Asked for clarification on layout geometry and pedestrian circulation.
    - Suggested re-evaluating clearances and considering a sixth wall for spatial balance.
        - Design Team: Regarding to moving through the space – someone would come on either end and move through the systems. There is 5' between the poles – entering the space from the sides and 6' on the end.
    - Concerned with the overall arrangement – there might be opportunity for a 6^{th} wall arranged to leave a space in the center.
- Firchow Comments:
    - Inquired about pedestrian access and potential wear on grass.
    - Recommended reconsidering paving strategies.

        - Design Team: We want people to move through these walls and the space and avoid too much paved area.
- Natura Comments:
    - Proposed reorienting walls to align with site grades and allow for future expansion.
    - Suggested integrating walls more naturally into the landscape.
        - Design Team: Slope grades align with the walks on either side. Walls designed for 10yr expansion.
- Asad Comments:
    - Supported the current design but recommended reducing wall height to 7–9 feet. Agreed with Steelman's concerns and praised the composition.
- Schlecht Comments:
    - Encouraged collaboration with campus landscape teams and a return to DRB with updates.

Public comments:

- Noted existing lighting fixtures and suggested exploring alternate wall shapes inspired by the Wisconsin "W" logo.
- Emphasized the lawn's value for student recreation.

October 21, 2025 is the next DRB meeting.

These notes are what the writer understands of the proceedings. Please contact or email any changes to the writer within 5 working days if not in concurrence. End of meeting notes.