



University of Colorado

Boulder | Colorado Springs | Denver | Anschutz Medical Campus

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University of Colorado Design Review Board

Minutes

Friday, April 20, 2012
Jennie Smoly Caruthers Biotechnology Building
A400 (Colloquium Room)
3415 Colorado Avenue
(Boulder East Campus)

DRB Board members in attendance: Lois Brink, Victor Olgyay, Teresa Osborne (ex officio), John Prosser, Jerry Seracuse; **absent:** Candy Roberts (available via conference call)

Meeting minutes submitted by: Garrick Swanson (CCCD)

Clyde's Patio Expansion (UCCS) – conference call
Presenter(s) – Carolyn Fox, University Architect
Description – Concept Schematic Design

Note: minutes missed the first ten minutes of the conference call, started at 8:40 A.M.

Summary:

Schematic Design was approved with recommendations from the DRB:

- Concern about the size of the proposed Dwarf Alberta Spruce on the planting plan; they are represented graphically larger than their mature size. To best fill up the space and provide wind protection, suggest the Pinon Pine, Austrian Pine or a Mugo Pine.
- There is not a great need for an overhead shade structure on the west side with the existing amount of shade. A wood outdoor structure is high risk as an outdoor construction material due to the dry Colorado climate. A material alternative to wood would be a metal trellis structure. Per the campus, the inside of Clyde's contains architectural / decorative wood. The trellis is an opportunity to connect between the inside and outside design elements. Benefit of the trellis is to frame the space and use less as a traditional trellis & shade structure.
- As an intimate and social gathering space, current fire pit and seating configuration is not maximizing the amount of users.

- Permeable paving would assist with drainage and patterning options as well as reinforce the intimacy of the space. A radiant heating system is a strong element to promote safety and manage snow issues.
- DRB is concerned about the number of people the space could safely support with the current purposed configuration of site elements and site furnishings.

Memorial Garden (AMC)

Architect(s): studioINSITE

Presenter(s): Dennis Rubba

Description: Concept/Schematic Design

Consultants' comments:

The consultant explained the concept of the design. A symbolic gesture of life and death through the act of donation, giving education and quality of life represented through a ring. Challenges are to explore the scale of space, memorial, human experience and circulation patterns. There is great power in going through the circle and not around the circle, with an intimate garden on the other side. The project is simple as well as the proposed concept. Geometry of the design has exceeded the simplicity of the project. Communication between the DRB, master planning process and memorial garden design would maximize the relationship between the garden and campus context.

DRB Comments:

- Explore how the memorial design could communicate with the corner of the existing building. There is potential to extend the gestures of the building into the landscape to meld the relationship between building and garden. Memorial detail elements have the opportunity to reflect existing architectural elements of Building 500.
- Don't lose the power of the threshold and relationship of the ring to the tree. The north end of the design (fan shape) feels isolated from the rest of the memorial. The structure of the geometry is strong, needs further organization and exploration to get all the pieces to work together in a cohesive relationship.
- A symbolic expression of life and death is a missed opportunity in the orientation of the memorial garden in reference to historic Native American / Greek relationships to the universal cardinal directions. The project is simple as well as the concept. The layout of the design has exceeded the simplicity of the project.

Campus Comments:

Anschutz Medical Campus master plan will begin next week to reevaluate existing open space and circulation patterns on campus. Communication between the DRB (Design Review Board), master planning process and memorial garden design team would maximize the relationship between the garden and campus context.

The CU Denver/Anschutz Medical Campus planning department would like to go back to the students as they have not seen the updated design concept. Establish a communication between the master planning process and design of the memorial garden. Continue to massage the geometry of the schematic design to better incorporate with existing site use. Team supports a 'time-out' from the memorial garden schematic design process to involve the memorial design team, DRB and the master planning process to preserve the history of the campus that went into

the past master plan. Regroup and talk about a schedule to continue the design process of garden and master plan into a cohesive relationship of all invested parties.

Consent Agenda:

1. **South Stadium Score board replacement** (Northcutt) –Motion made to support the replacement of the south stadium score board. Motion is supported by DRB to authorize replacement of the south stadium score board.
2. **Engineering Lobby Expansion project** – Motion made to continue into construction documents and project implementation. DRB approves motion.
3. **18th & Colorado site improvements** – Project goal is to relieve the congestion between vehicle and pedestrian traffic during peak student transition times. Curb-to-curb road distance is cut in half from 87' to 45' with the idea to increase the wait time between students crossing the intersection, allowing more time for vehicle circulation. Revisit the design layout to straighten the crosswalk connection between the two adjacent parcels. DRB makes a motion to move forward with design development. Motion passed.

Student Recreation Facilities Improvements Schematic Design (CU-Boulder)

Architect(s): Davis Partnership with Cannon Design and CIVITAS Landscape

Presenter(s): Brian Ericson, Davis Partnership; Ken Wiseman, Cannon Design; Todd Mead, CIVITAS Landscape; Tom Goodhew, CU-Boulder Planning

Description: The project renovates and expands the student recreation center to address critical space needs and deferred maintenance issues. Key elements of this project include: doubling strength and conditioning spaces for drop-in weight and cardiovascular fitness training; adding an indoor turf multi-activity gym for programmed and informal recreation; adding an outdoor aquatics facility and deck area; doubling multi-purpose areas.

Consultant Comments:

Since the last DRB meeting the team defined three design drivers for the project: existing architecture, create a significant new outdoor gathering space, and recreate the current recreation center. The landscape and site elements were not working in a cohesive relationship with the architecture and surrounding context, not responding to the three drivers of the project. In the current concept, an arched pedestrian pattern reinforces movement and site access. An informal seating area under the bosque of trees is located at the end of the arched pattern.

The new south entry way is accentuated by a sundial tower and covered colonnade. The northwest corner of the building is accentuated by two-story glazing permitting mountain views. Generally the facade respects the existing building character. Glazing and building openings are designed to improve interior building usage and energy savings.

Aspects of the building that enhance sustainability measures include:

- A lighting strategy that includes day light for large volume areas,
- The heat recovery from the ice rink cooling is used for pool and other heating aspects,
- The plug loads are limited by current exercise equipment efficiency, and
- Automated lights in the large volume spaces supplement filtered day light from the north to south.

The DRB approved schematic design with the following recommendations:

Site Comments:

- Simplify the site geometry so the area does not feel fractured. Overall the geometry needs to be tightened.
- The arcade is too deep to be a beneficial space at the human scale. It is dark and unwelcoming.
- Reconfigure the stairs to come off the wall and not perpendicular in the pool area. This will help stitch the geometry together.
- Focus on the arcade terrace and social gathering terrace to the west of the tower.

Architecture Comments:

- The tower is not resolved as an entry. The sundial is disconnected from the existing and proposed architecture. As the sundial controls the light on all sides of the tower, it is limiting the ability to open up the tower on the remaining sides, resulting in a heavy enclosed structure. Tower has the potential to work as a campus lantern.
- The ending of the patio at the base of the tower on the east is a bit abrupt. There is an unexplored potential for ADA access that may help in softening the edge. The south arcade, tower and terrace are not reflective of the opening comments & driving forces for the project.
- Opportunities at the end of interior corridors are not being maximized to bring in life and light into the recreation center.
- The proposed terrace green roof is too deep. A narrower roof could make the terrace more usable and more inviting or skylights could open up that area and bring additional light into the building. Covered terraces in Colorado are at a high risk to be a dark unwelcoming place.
- On the west facade, a thin band of stone over the window as part of the materials pallet would enhance the windows and make a connection to existing campus architecture.
- At the northwest corner, the interior design of the building should maximize the double story glazing by opening the floors to all three levels.
- Be careful of too many different expressions with materials and fenestration.

Sustainability Comments –

- Try to eliminate the need for a cooling tower,
- Detail the heat recovery benefit from the laundry and hot water heat,
- Maximize the space and benefit of the roof p.v. system.
- Refine day lighting by reflecting solar tubes/skylights against the walls so as not to see the source, and
- In the next review, the DRB would like to see drawings, details and diagrams of managing the solar gain on the west side.

Campus Utilities Site Work Schematic Design (CU-Boulder)

Architect(s): Mundus Bishop Design

Presenter(s): Richelle Reilly

Description: Schematic design presentation of campus utilities distribution line.

Summary:

The consultant provided an update of the changes on east district utility plan. Project goal is to optimize the system and minimize the impact on the campus by preserving access routes and existing vegetation. Utility boring will be executed where possible on site.

Changes at the staircase –

- Retain the jog in the staircase going from north to south. Wall was removed from the west side and replaced with landscaping.

DRB action:

The DRB approved the project to move forward into construction.