

University Council Committee on Facilities

Meeting Minutes

Date: December 15, 2025

Time: 4:00–5:05 PM

Location: Virtual Microsoft Teams

Chair: Mathew S. Mundy

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mathew S. Mundy after confirmation that quorum was present.

2. Roll Call

The following individuals were recorded as attendees: - Mathew S. Mundy (Chair)

- Kim A. Landrum
- Jon Calabria
- Thea Ellenberg
- Gwynne M. Darden
- Alysha Helmrich
- Michael D. Gebeke
- Alexander Abrams
- Travis C. Glenn
- Karl Lechtreck
- Virginia Fleming
- Le Guan
- Catherine Ann Chambers
- Michelle Garfield Cook
- Bynum Boley
- Denis Dumas
- Jeffrey L. Clark
- Svetlana Pashchenko
- Aishat Olufunmilayo Aina
- Clayton P. Wilcox

Quorum was confirmed.

Absent: Rylie Abernathy, Kristina Jaskyte Bahr, Emily Lawler, Melissa Redmon, Ashfaq Sial, Charles Van Rees.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the Fall 2025 meeting were presented for approval. - **Motion:** Approve Fall 2025 meeting minutes

- **Moved by:** Virginia Fleming
 - **Seconded by:** Kim A. Landrum
 - **Vote:** Approved by acclamation
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4. Purpose of Meeting and Framing Remarks

Chair Mundy provided an opening statement outlining the purpose of the discussion:

- To review whether the Committee's bylaws adequately guide its role in campus planning, use of university land and facilities, and campus safety.
- To clarify that the discussion was not intended as an endorsement or opposition to a specific project, but rather an evaluation of governance processes.
- To acknowledge the sensitivity and visibility of the Legion Pool matter.

Chair Mundy also announced that he would be resigning as Chair following the meeting due to his transition to a new role with the University System of Georgia, effective after this meeting.

5. Discussion: Legion Pool and Committee Bylaws

a. Scope of Discussion

Members sought clarification on the extent to which Legion Pool could be discussed. Chair Mundy indicated that while opinions could be shared, discussion should be framed through the lens of the Committee's bylaws and role in campus planning processes.

b. Member Comments and Concerns

- **Karl Lechtreck** expressed concern over the loss of recreational facilities near undergraduate housing, noting the removal of tennis courts, basketball courts, and now Legion Pool. He emphasized the importance of accessible, nearby recreational and wellness spaces for students and questioned whether demolition was the best option.
- **Travis Glenn** raised concerns about process and governance, questioning whether the Facilities Committee had been engaged early in the redevelopment planning. He suggested that major or high-visibility projects should involve the Committee and proposed potential actions including further study or pausing implementation to build community consensus.

- **Denis Dumas** supported these concerns and suggested that the Committee request comparative data from peer institutions, noting that many similar universities maintain outdoor pools. He questioned whether UGA's direction aligns with aspirational peers.
- **Alysha Helmrigh** and **Alexander Abrams** both noted that the project was not brought to the Committee earlier and expressed support for exploring mechanisms to ensure future projects meeting certain thresholds are reviewed by the Committee.
- Several members expressed disappointment that the Committee appeared to have limited ability to influence decisions on such a visible and impactful project.

c. Historic Preservation and Planning Process Overview

Gwynne M. Darden provided an overview of the Historic Preservation Master Plan (2019), including: - Inventory and categorization of historic buildings, including Legion Pool and associated structures. - Standard Operating Procedures followed for historic properties, including consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office, archaeological review, and compliance with the Georgia Environmental Policy Act (GEPA). - Completion of a historic resource study and pool condition assessment by third-party consultants. - Clarification that no final decision had yet been published and that GEPA processes, including public notice and hearing, were being followed.

Ms. Darden also presented conceptual plans for the Legion Field redevelopment, including expanded green space, accessibility improvements, removal of permanent fencing, and use of temporary stages for events.

d. Governance and Bylaws Discussion

The discussion repeatedly returned to whether the Committee's bylaws:

- Provide sufficient clarity regarding which projects fall under the Committee's purview.
- Adequately support transparency, shared governance, and early engagement on major or high-impact projects.

Travis Glenn proposed three potential actions:

1. Forming a small subcommittee to draft proposed bylaw language clarifying thresholds for Committee involvement.
2. Developing a statement expressing concern that current bylaws are insufficient for representing faculty and staff input on major facilities decisions.
3. Considering whether and how the Committee could formally communicate concerns related to Legion Pool.

Chair Mundy noted that any bylaw changes would likely require coordination with the University Council Statutes and Bylaws Committee and emphasized the importance of process-focused rather than project-specific governance language.

6. Public Safety Update

Chair Mundy noted a request for updates regarding campus scooters and public safety. **Chief Jeffrey L. Clark** indicated he did not have a prepared update but could provide information at a future meeting after consulting with appropriate administrators.

7. Chair Transition

Chair Mundy formally announced his resignation as Chair, effective following the meeting. He invited nominations or self-nominations for an interim Chair through July, pending formal elections. No nominations were made during the meeting; members were invited to follow up via email.

8. Follow-Up Action Items for Incoming Chair

The Committee identified several follow-up items for consideration by the next Chair:

1. **Bylaws Review and Clarification**

- Consider forming a small subcommittee (3–4 members) to review the Committee on Facilities bylaws.
- Draft proposed language to clarify the Committee’s purview, particularly regarding thresholds for review of major, high-visibility, or high-impact facilities projects (including demolition and redevelopment).

2. **Coordination with University Council Statutes and Bylaws Committee**

- Consult with the University Council Statutes and Bylaws Committee regarding the process for proposing amendments or clarifications to Committee bylaws.

3. **Shared Governance and Early Engagement**

- Explore mechanisms to ensure earlier notification and information-sharing with the Committee on significant campus planning or facilities initiatives.

4. **Legion Pool Documentation and Record**

- Ensure that concerns raised by Committee members regarding Legion Pool (loss of recreational facilities, wellness impacts, historic considerations, and peer-institution comparisons) are retained in the Committee record for future reference.

5. Comparative Facilities Analysis (Optional)

- Consider requesting or compiling comparative data from peer and aspirational institutions related to outdoor pools, recreational facilities, and student wellness amenities.

6. Public Safety Updates

- Follow up with Campus Police and relevant administrators to obtain an update on scooter-related safety policies and practices for a future meeting agenda.

7. Chair Transition

- Coordinate with University Council leadership to identify and appoint an interim Chair through July, pending formal elections.

9. Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn:** Gwynne M. Darden
- **Seconded by:** Aishat Aina
- **Time Adjourned:** 5:05 PM

Chair Mundy thanked members for their service and participation and wished the Committee well moving forward.

Submitted by:

Mathew S. Mundy, Chair (outgoing)