City of Seattle - University of Washington Community Advisory Committee

DRAFT Meeting Notes
Meeting #121
October 9, 2012
University of Washington Tower
4333 Brooklyn
Seattle, WA 98105
22nd Floor

Members and Alternates Present
Matt Fox, Co-chair, UDCC
Elaine King, Montlake
Barbara Quinn, UPC
Brett Frosaker, RBCA
Erika King, Montlake Community Club
Barbara Quinn, maple Community Council
Ashley Emery, University of Washington Faculty
Devyn Myers, University of Washington Students

Members and Alternates Absent
Betty Swift, PB/RPCC
Eric Larson, RNA

Alternates
Anita Bowers, Montlake Community Club
Chris Leman, Eastlake Community Council
Tom Roth, Ravenna Community Council
Vacant, University of Washington

Staff and Others Present
Steve Sheppard, DON
Theresa Doherty, UW
Daniel Nguyen

I. Welcome and Introductions and Housekeeping
The meeting was opened by Matt Fox. Brief Introductions followed.
Adoption of minutes was deferred because there is not yet a quorum.

II. Schematics Designs for Maple and Terry

Editors Note: This presentation used slides.

John Lebo and Rob Lubin were introduced to go over the status of schematic designs for Maple and Terry Halls. The noted that they were at CUCAC a few months ago and showed the concept designs at that point and were present at this meeting to present the designs as they have progressed. The University has progressed farther with the designs.

The Lander Hall project is now under construction. Maple and Terry are a replacement of the existing 1101 cafe and Terry Hall. These are on the west campus along Northeast Campus Parkway and function as a sort of gateway to the campus. The University wants to create a building that's within the City's street grid and thus honors that grid. We also want to foster connections for the students. The university is also designing this to LEED - Leadership, Energy, Environmental Design - silver. Standards. We have been very fortunate in some of the current buildings we have been getting very close to achieving gold LEED standards.
Mr. Lebo then went over a series of slides showing building floor plates and exterior elevations and then opened the floor to Committee member's questions and comments. Key items discussed during this time included: 1) that parts of 12th and 11th Avenues will be reopened for pedestrians only and will line up with the existing street grid; 2) the construction of Lander Hall will include a new kitchen and dining facility to make up for the 1101 Café; 3) that upon completion of Lander students from Terry Hall will move there and Terry demolition will commence; 4) that Lander, Maple, and Terry Halls will all be interconnected with an underground loading dock and garage.

Matt Fox stated that the views he would be interested in seeing are views of what these projects will look like if you are southbound on Roosevelt as it turns to Eastlake going across the bridge. He noted that the recent projects were particularly obtrusive from this view and that while these projects are unlikely to be so view blocking, we have not seen that perspective. Given the recent experience with the other new residence hall projects in this area, CUCAC needs to see the buildings from this perspective to assure that they fit with the surrounding residential neighborhoods better.

Mr. Fox noted that since Maple Hall is considerably larger it may still appear bulky. He also requested perspectives illustrating how the open pedestrian corridor would affect or improve public views from the north and whether this opens up views perceptibly. He noted that most of the perspective drawing presented to CUCAC have been street level views from a UW perspective illustrating the experience of students on the street walking from one place on the campus to another. This is not the perspective that the broader community sees.

Mr. Fox noted that he has received many negative comments from neighbors concerning the design of the earlier projects. It appears that CUCAC erred significantly in its review, by failing to pick up on how negatively these designs would be perceived by neighbors. CUCAC failed in its review of the SEIS for Mercer and undoubtedly should have demanded a view study.

He also noted that he would like to see perspectives illustrating how does "gateway" experience mentioned by Mr. Lebo looks and functions. We’ve seen nothing substantive concerning this concept and the notion that Terry’s the gateway to the University.

VI. Adjournment

No further business being before the Committee the meeting was adjourned.