SUMMARY OF COMMENTS
UNH Outdoor Pool Public Forum

Project Name/Number: UNH Outdoor Pool
University of New Hampshire
HGA Project #1213

Meeting Date/Time: July 1, 2014/7:00pm

Location: Holloway Commons - Piscataqua Room

Attendees: Doug Bencks Campus Planning, Director & University Architect
Stacey Hall Campus Recreation, Director
Lynn Reda HGA
Doug Whiteaker Water Technology Inc.

see attached sign-in sheet for community and committee attendees

PRESENTATION
Doug Bencks, Lynn Reda, and Stacey Hall each presented aspects of the Outdoor Pool project to date, including history, site conditions (opportunities and constraints) conceptual designs, and the current design. The attendees then separated into groups of eight to ten people at tables for discussions which were facilitated by members of the Pool Design Committee and the Design Team. Each table was asked to comment on the same elements of the design. The following is a documentation of the ideas and concerns expressed at the table discussions.

DISCUSSION
I. Ideas for divider between zero depth and instructional areas:
   a. Prefer children not be able to climb or stand on it
   b. No jumping into parents arms from it
   c. Should not be wide enough to walk on
   d. Could be granite
   e. Should terminate just below or at the surface of the water; should be a 'softer surface'
II. Underwater benches at edge of pool; width of bench, location within pool, depth of water when sitting on bench
   a. In areas of shallow water (instructional area) water should be waist to chest level
   b. In lap lanes prefer water to be at chest or shoulder
   c. Width of bench 18"
   d. Contrasting color in deeper water - suggest gray
e. No rock design elements are desired behind the benches
f. At the bench in the lap pool prefer water to be waist high, not shoulder
g. Bench should be 12-14" wide
h. Suggest bench be half as long as shown in multi-purpose area
i. Water depth when sitting should be 24" deep in lap lanes, 18-20" deep in teaching area
j. Would like water jets at benches

III. Diving Board area, what other elements should be included
a. No slide
b. No climbing wall
c. Not sure a diving board is needed; recognizes it is an element of swim lessons
d. Suggest diving area be designed so there is no splashing into the lap lane area
e. Not sure of slide - yes and no
f. No climbing wall
g. Suggest bubbles, streams, shots
h. In favor of diving board
i. Concern about potential for congestion between starting blocks and line for diving board; consider relocating diving board

IV. Commemorate History of Existing Pool
a. Like the Wiswall Dam display
b. Minnow Rock should be salvaged and displayed
c. Relocate gears, currently near the dam to be near entrance to bath house, as artifact or near dam area with plaque
d. The New Hampshire stone could be incorporated into the bath house or located near the entrance
e. Like the Dairy Bar display
f. Suggest displaying lots of photographs of the pool being used at different eras; suggest working with UNH archives to help provide a complete display
g. Incorporate pool stones into pathways - "Durham Stone"
h. Use stone on wall of Hamel expansion or bath house or walk ways
i. Retain classifications of pool areas - minnow, perch, shark etc.

V. Other Comments and Ideas
a. Generate images of the pool at "eye level" to help people understand the space
b. Deck surfaces - prefer non-slip; perhaps a spongy material or mat
c. Prefer sand color for bottom of pool
d. Like the color of the bottom of the Portsmouth pool
e. Splash zones or different fun elements such as sprays in the zero-depth area
f. PA system
g. Heating system - is it possible to add in the future or use solar for heating
h. No sand box
i. Would like a sand play area within social space
j. Like chaise lounges shown on drawings; suggest donation of chairs by community members
k. Get rid of the pine trees
l. Add shade trees
m. Provide picnic tables; provide tables in shade areas

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n. Concerns about shade (or lack thereof) at zero entry area; consider shade structures or umbrellas
o. Provide benches near the bath house
p. Is it possible to expand the pool in the future?
q. Suggest increasing the size of the pool and reducing social space to be more in alignment with current ratio of water to social
r. Enhance the Pettee Brook as a water feature - water fall possible?
s. Safe viewing area of the dam
t. Resolve parking issues; nature of path and proximity of handicapped spaces to pool area entry
u. Provide bike racks
v. Concerned about how much of the pool is 4'-0" deep or less
w. Request greater than 4'-0" water depth at shallower end of lap pool area
x. Where will lifeguards be located?
y. Provide steps into lap pool for accessibility
z. Provide steps into "whale" area; quieter, away from kids
aa. Provide Whale area separate from youth areas
bb. Provide a seat wall in the zero-depth area for parents watching children
c. Room names in bath house to be as non-gender specific as possible, suggest 'Changing Room' instead of 'Family Changing Room'

CONCLUSION

Following the group table discussion each table leader/facilitator reported on the discussion at the tables, which are the items noted above.

Other topics discussed during the round table and the conclusion included the proposed design for the Hamel Recreation Center Expansion. At this time the design team has only just been given notice to proceed with Schematic Design and there is no information to share with the group regarding the character or footprint of the building. It was noted however that the height of the addition will not extend above the existing Hamel (Snively) building. The group expressed interest in the sustainable design opportunities for the pool. A packet of information from a European pool company specializing in sustainable pools was provided to Doug Bencks; this will be made available at the next Pool Design Committee meeting for review and discussion. While sustainable design has been identified as a goal for the new pool, the committee has not yet discussed specific strategies as the process is not far enough along yet for this type of detail.

Doug Bencks then presented the next steps for the remainder of the design process. There are reviews and approval required by the NH Department of Environmental Services as well as interaction and agreements to be made with the NH Department of Historic Resources and an RSA Presentation to the Town of Durham Planning Board. The design team will develop construction documents for the pool and coordination will be done with the proposed expansion to Hamel Recreation Center.

Regular updates will be made to the website on the progress of the project. Comments and questions are welcome to the campus recreation email or committee representatives.
The above meeting minutes represent Hughes Group Architects understanding of the items discussed and the actions or decisions agreed to and shall constitute the basis upon which the project is proceeding.

If any of the attendees should have any additions, clarifications or corrections, they should be forwarded to Hughes Group Architects within five working days of receipt of this document.

End of Meeting Minutes.

Minutes By: J. Lynn Reda
Distribution: 2014 07-08: to Doug Bencks for distribution
2014 07-18: Doug Bencks, Stacey Hall
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