



February 6, 2015

Mr. Michael Behrendt
Director of Planning and Community Development
Town of Durham
8 Newmarket Road
Durham, New Hampshire 03824

Re: UNH Outdoor Pool Project

Dear Michael:

Preparation of construction documents is now underway for the Outdoor Pool project with full construction expected to begin in April and continuing into November 2015 with final landscaping in the spring 2016. I am submitting the attached material in compliance with New Hampshire RSA 674:54 to explain the elements and construction of this project. This is the last step in the design review process that the University laid out last spring to keep the community apprised of the progress and evolution of the design.

In April of last year the University and the Town established an understanding of the overall design parameters for the project that would replace the outdoor pool on Edgewood Road. I've attached the Town Council resolution that summarized that understanding. Since then we have worked with a design review committee that included a number of town residents and a public forum was held last summer in the midst of that design process to encourage broader community input (about 30 people participated in that forum). We have continued to provide design updates on the project webpage <http://campusrec.unh.edu/outdoor-pool-project-1>, and welcomed further comments by email as new updates were posted.

The goals of the project as outlined last spring are to:

- Increase use of the outdoor pool through improved programming and safer environment for families, students, faculty and staff, and camps (music, writing, sports, youth, etc.)
- Provide outdoor swimming experience that is universally accessible
- Address all code and regulatory deficiencies of the pool

The final design is a 14,355 sf pool along with approximately 14,000 sf of social space on deck and lawn areas. The overall design concept and layout is similar to what was developed last summer with an area that can accommodate up to eight 25 yard swim lanes (subdividable into a portion for swim lanes and a portion for other activities), and a leisure swimming area that has space for non-swimmers, novice swimmers, and diving/jumping. The pool edges vary from zero depth, to steps into the water, to in-

water seat walls with all pool edges flush with the water level, using a gutter system that meets all standards while being attractive, enduring, and easy to maintain. The project will provide the capability for future heating of the pool, as well as future night lighting for evening use.

The bathhouse provides restrooms and showers to meet all health and safety requirements with a design that accommodates large camp groups as well as individual occupant facilities. Along the public side of the bathhouse will be a series of panels to commemorate the history of the pool. The specific content of these panels will be developed over the next year and will include images and narrative about the evolution of the pool over the past 100 years. Stones from the bottom of the old pool have been salvaged to be reused in portions of the new deck area, as well as the facing for sitting walls at one or two locations near the new pool. The original dam remains in place, as well as the pump house, and the original dam valve wheel will be relocated to remain a visible feature. Trees along Edgewood Road are being maintained, as well as the woods along the north edge of the pool area.

There are no anticipated impacts to wetlands, however, an existing culvert that is directly adjacent to the outdoor pool needs to be increased in size. We are currently working with NH DES to determine if a wetlands permit is required, or if this will simply be a maintenance permit. If a wetlands permit is required, then the Durham Conservation Commission will be contacted for their review. We are working closely with the Town DPW on sanitary sewer connections for the new bathhouse as well as the pool pump house. The new pool will use substantially less water, but there is a significant increase in the number of toilets and showers.

Attached are the most current drawings available at this time for review. I am prepared to meet with the Planning Board at their convenience, to hear comments and answer any questions they may have about this project.

Respectfully,



Douglas C. Bencks
University Architect and Director of Campus Planning

Copy: Paul Chamberlin, Chris Clement, Stacey Hall, Mica Stark

Attachments:

Location map

80% completed construction documents

Solar study

November 12, 2014 3D images (same as on the web site)