

Minutes
Council on the Built Environment
April 27, 2005

Attending: Carol Cantrell for Kem Bennett, Wayne Williams for Russell Cross, Shelly Janac, Clint Magill, James Massey, David Parrott, Bill Perry, Charles Sippial, Max Summers, Dick Williams, Tom Regan, and Joel Wixson.

Guests: Arturo Alonzo, Tom Shehan, and John Happ.

Perry began the meeting by stating that a NEO e-mail regarding Phase 2 draft recommendations was sent to the University community this morning. Perry called Mark Smock at the Research Foundation since one of the recommendations involves moving the Foundation to lease space.

Arturo Alonzo and Tom Shehan presented the need for improvements for law enforcement training facilities at the Riverside campus. TEEX is requesting approval in concept for three projects:

1. A firing range control booth, 8' X 15' with a 10 foot ceiling, which will protect the firing range computer equipment and target system, a firing range classroom, with an adjacent covered outdoor area and storage garage, a ten station firing range, separated by a cinderblock bullet proof wall and a lighted parking area for 30 vehicles and a two story "shoot house" located on the south side of the range property.
2. An open sided pavilion, approximately 20' X 50", which would be located between the two houses on the property used for tactical training. The pavilion would be open to the public when not in use for training.
3. Another open sided pavilion to be constructed near the runway to conduct emergency vehicle operations. A storage building would also be included to store traffic cones and generators.

On each of the proposals, Regan moved and Sippial seconded that the projects be approved in concept. It was noted that the firing range booth will have a collection system for the lead. The Council voted and all were in favor of the motion. The projects will be discussed and reviewed in further detail by CFPC at its next meeting.

Happ shared with the Council an aerial map of a section of Easterwood Airport and requested permission to construct an airplane hangar along the western edge of the property line. The hangar is conceived to be two or three bays with 3600 to 3900 square feet. Happ noted this project was included in the approved airport master plan.

Regan moved and Sippial seconded that the airplane hangar project be approved in concept. A vote was taken and all members were in favor of the motion. The project will be discussed and reviewed in further detail by CFPC at its next meeting.

Regarding Phase 2 draft recommendations, Perry reminded the Council that he had already forwarded them Emily Ashworth's comments on the possible relocation of International Programs from Bizzell Hall to GSC-2. Wixson noted he found it helpful that Ashworth's e-mail

stated how many students use the facilities and suggested getting that same type of information from other offices. Perry said that question would be added to the list of questions he is compiling for Phase 2 recommendations.

Regan stated it might be worthwhile to have a planning consultant for a short time to review the Council's suggestions for feasibility. He will send Perry a document outlining the major points to review.

Under Other Business, Perry stated that the Vice President for Student Affairs is requesting an affirmative finding of fact from the President's Office that it is necessary to enlist the services of a consultant to conduct a feasibility study to determine if the construction of a new band hall is a reasonable fund raising project. Also, Perry understands Dean Elsa Murano has an idea regarding a possible role the Research Park can play in space needs for faculty reinvestment and has asked her to share her idea with the Council. Regan noted the deans have discussed asking for an exception to policies which may help the University during the reinvestment period.

Perry stated he hopes to have Phase 2 confirmed by the end of May and would like to have an open forum this fall to update the University community on actions that will occur.

Regan brought up the topic of LEED certification. Perry stated the advertisement for the Life Sciences Building will use wording for LEED principles in the construction and added the cost for LEED is decreasing as more technology and products are becoming available. Summers suggested the Council have a policy that new buildings will be LEED certified. Perry asked Summers to review the Campus Master Plan and prepare a written statement on LEED certification for the Council's consideration.

The Council noted Senate Bill 1883, which relates to lands managed and controlled by the Board of Regents of the Texas A&M University System. If the bill passes the legislature, it would allow the Board to enter into an agreement with a donor for a ground lease to construct buildings on the original main campus. After building completion, the donor would give the building to the University. Perry noted that Facilities Planning and Construction would still have to oversee aspects of the construction.

The Agriculture program's spreadsheet for hiring and space projection was shared with the Council. Perry noted the Council had already been given a copy of Engineering's planning spreadsheet and asked for the Council's ideas on a uniform format for the deans to use.

The Council will be provided a 1999 TAMU System task force report on Reducing Construction Project Time.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.