

Minutes
Council on the Built Environment
Texas A&M University
August 9, 2006

Voting Members Attending: Sean Eubanks for Kem Bennett, Bobby Bisor, Dick Chilcoat, Wayne Williams for Russell Cross, Clint Magill, David Parrott, Chuck Sippial, and Max Summers.

Non-Voting Members attending: Shelly Janac, David Morrison for James Massey, Chris Meyer, Raye Milburn, Nancy Sawtelle, and Dick Williams.

Sippial chaired the meeting in Perry's absence.

Additional Human Resources Space Needs in GSC

Bisor distributed a proposed floor plan for the Center for Employee Education. This Center is a new initiative for Human Resources (HR). Ideally HR would like this center to be located in the General Services Complex, so it would be close to their department once they move to the GSC. The Center for Employee Education will have a 20 seat training room and have offices for ten employees and two student workers, along with a work/copy room. Funding for finishing out this shelled space has not been identified. Bisor stated if funds are not identified for the space, the options would be for the Center to use the current Human Resources space in Research Park, or use lease space.

The Council was reminded that this is the same area which MARS has requested for the Thomson Prometric testing services. Since two departments are competing for the same space, it was requested that Bisor meet with Paul Meyer and then brief the Council on their discussions.

Sippial stated that \$900,000 is still needed for Phase 2 completion of the GSC, although that cost could be less if Human Resources use their current furniture. Sippial asked Janac to make a recommendation on possible source of funds.

Following up on last week's discussion on outside entities contracting with the university, Bisor distributed a list of businesses which operate on campus. Depending on the type of business, companies may be required to pay an upfront cost as well as operating and maintenance costs, and some also contribute to scholarship funds.

Health Science Center Request for Space

Rod McCallum from the Health Science Center (HSC) has requested that the HSC be allowed to use a portion of the unused food service space in the Medical Sciences Library. The HSC is reorganizing their division of student services and would like to have their registrar, financial aid and bursar located in closer proximity to each other, and the food service space could assist in that effort. Bisor said Food Services plans to use about one-fourth of the space, so the remaining space is available for other uses.

Magill moved and Chilcoat seconded to approve in concept the Health Science Center using the space. Sippial will ask McCallum or his representative to discuss the specific space and square footage needs of the area with Joe Powell before it comes back for final approval from the Council. All members were in favor of the motion.

Core Campus District Plan

Sippial said he has been in discussions with Michael Dennis and representatives from Barnes, Grotmatzky and Associates about a campus district plan. The cost for the plan, which includes the academic corridor area, will cost about \$250,000. The district plan will be divided into phases, and the Williams Building/ETED Buildings area would be the first phase. Sippial noted this phase of the plan is especially needed so design work on the ETED buildings can begin. The complete district plan should be completed in six to eight months. Sippial said Parrott would be a member of the group which reviews the proposed plan to ensure harmony with Residence Life's housing plans.

Sippial requested that the Council consider funding this project but that further discussion would be held until Perry returned from annual leave.

Other Business

- The Campus Signage Committee is still in discussions. Sippial noted that the city of College Station is allowing banners to be erected for two weeks at a cost of \$200. Billboards signs are still prohibited.
- Summers asked Bisor about the economic impact of the outside businesses operating on campus. Bisor will check into this and provide a rough estimate.
- Sippial met with the College Station city manager and public works director to discuss the extension of Jones Butler Road. The University has proposed two conditions to the agreement (extending Penberthy and moving a building) and they are considering this.
- Milburn stated the HSC would like to add signage to the Rural Public Health building. Sippial asked her to resend her previous request.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 16.