

**Minutes**  
**Council on the Built Environment**  
**Texas A&M University**  
**May 3, 2006**

Voting Members Attending: Sean Eubanks for Kem Bennett, Russell Cross, Joe Dillard for Dick Chilcoat, Clint Magill, David Parrott, Bill Perry, Max Summers and Joel Wixson.

Non-Voting Members attending:, Shelly Janac, David Morrison for James Massey, Chris Meyer, Mary Miller, Joe Powell, Nancy Sawtelle, and Les Swick for Dick Williams.

Guests: Martin Scholtz, David Giedroc, and Wynn Rosser.

NMR Facility

Giedroc reminded the Council the \$5 million funding for the project had been provided by the Health Science Center (\$1 million), College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (\$2 million), Vice President for Research (\$1 million) and from the Interdisciplinary Life Sciences Building project (\$1 million)

The two story facility will house existing and new equipment, as well as some staff offices and a conference room, but due to escalating construction costs, there are not sufficient funds for lab space. In order to shell out two floors of lab space, an additional \$900,000 is needed and to complete shelled space on the first floor would be an additional \$1.4 million. Shelling out the space during the construction phase is best, since doing it after the facility is completed would cause a disruption of NMR activities.

Scholtz added the design on the facility has stopped until a decision is made whether to add the shelled space. Perry stated the Council could not commit any more funds to the project and unless some of the stakeholders want to pledge additional resources the project will remain at its current scope.

Cross suggested going back to the deans involved to get their input, and suggested the user coordinators consider adding a third floor to plan for future needs. Scholtz noted that the foundation could support another floor. Perry said he would call Elsa Murano, Joe Newton, David Carlson at HSC, and Dick Ewing to let them know the status of the facility.

MSC Facility Plan

Rosser requested authorization to initiate a facility study of the MSC and University Center Complex. The chosen firm would make recommendations on how to proceed with design and construction for the facilities based on current and future uses. Rosser noted this is a study only, and would not involve any construction or renovation. The cost of the study is estimated to be \$300,000 and will be funded from student fees. In order for the study firm to also be eligible to participate in the design and construction process, the Board of Regents will have to give their approval.

A question was raised about the use of the MSC hotel and Rosser stated that issue has not been resolved. A study has been done by the consultant and Perry noted the issue would probably be resolved in a month or so.

Parrott moved and Wixson seconded that the project be approved in concept. All members were in favor of the motion, with none abstaining.

#### Update on Addition to Reed Arena

President Gates has approved the variance to the Campus Master Plan to allow a building addition to the south side of Reed Arena for use by the men's and women's basketball teams. Gates has sent a memo to the Chancellor recommending this variance so the project can be considered at the May Board of Regents meeting.

Perry has encouraged Athletics to come to CBE whenever they are considering new construction or major renovation so timely approvals can be received.

#### Other Business

- Perry stated Veterinary Medicine is able to fund \$4 million to add to their research building addition project. The design options are to add another floor to the building (going from three to four stories) or extending the building 22 feet to the east. The extra space would allow for an additional six labs and administrative support space. Summers moved and Cross seconded to approve the increase in scope. All members were in favor of the motion. Perry noted that the Design Review Board would also be reviewing the proposed change to make sure all elements conform to the Campus Master Plan guidelines.
- Summers asked about the status of the signage policy committee. Perry will check with Sippial.
- Miller said the city has been asked to provide additional information about the University Drive improvements to university administrators, so it is clear what is being requested from the University.