

**Minutes
Council on the Built Environment
Texas A&M University
September 13, 2006**

Voting members attending: Deena Wallace for Kem Bennett, Bobby Bisor, Dick Chilcoat, Russell Cross, Clint Magill, David Parrott, Bill Perry, Chuck Sippial, Max Summers and Joel Wixson.

Non-voting members attending: Steve Hodge, James Massey, Chris Meyer, Joe Powell, Nancy Sawtelle, and Dick Williams.

Guests: Jerry Brown and Becky Carr.

Family Friendly Workspaces

In addition the ideas presented by Sherry Yennello a few weeks ago on family friendly workspaces, Perry stated that the Chemistry department has requested to set aside a room in their building that would allow graduate students, during non-normal business hours, to use the space for reciprocal child care with graduate students while they work in the labs. Perry has talked to Charley Clark about Chemistry's request, and Clark suggested a task force be appointed to review the risks.

Parrott distributed a list of services for students with children, which includes Alpha Phi Omega's Parent's Night Out, Aggies with Kids Listserv, and Aggies with Kids, a student organization which meets several times throughout the semester and through which reciprocal child care is arranged. Parrott noted that any recognized student organization can reserve space in one of the meeting rooms, but are responsible for complying with the facility's rules.

Parrott introduced Jerry Brown from the Office of General Counsel to address some of the liability concerns. Brown noted that there are many potential liability issues, especially under the Tort Claims Act.

Sawtelle will request policies from University of California at Berkeley and University of Minnesota since we have been informed that they both have parent support centers. She will also ask if they know of any other universities contemplating adding parent support centers on their campuses. Bisor suggested Sawtelle also contact Jill Pollock to see if she has knowledge of the College and University Personnel Association addressing these types of issues.

The committee will discuss this topic again after further information is gathered.

Siting of Residence Halls

The Council was reminded that they had approved in concept the residence hall site on the north side of campus and the concept will be reviewed by CFPC. Before the west campus site is considered for approval, Perry asked APC for their comments. The Council was provided copies of the few comments that have been received to date. Sippial said the master planners will be meeting with Parrott and Residence Life representatives later today and the planners will be

asked for recommendations on other residence hall sitings in addition to the two already proposed. CBE will discuss this topic again in the new few weeks.

Signage at Olsen Field

Sippial has talked to Kevin Hurley and once Athletics has a design for the billboards at Olsen Field, they will make a presentation to CBE.

Issues of Signage and Wayfinding

Perry shared an e-mail he received from a graduate student about signage and wayfinding on campus. Massey noted that a subcommittee on signage proposed implementing a web-based map, and it is planned to be operational by the end of the year. Steve Moore's office has been consulted on the design.

Sippial said that due to the departure of Mary Miller, he will soon name another chair of the signage policy committee.

Massey will contact the graduate student to update him on the University's efforts in signage and wayfinding.

Wixson asked if campus map kiosks could be placed in front of new buildings, as part of the project cost. Sippial said that construction project funds are usually not available for this purpose, but other funds could be used. This is an issue the wayfinding and signage group could address.

Academic Master Plan

The Council reviewed the latest draft on the academic master plan. Perry asked the Council for any other comments they may have. He would like to send the memorandum to Provost Prior early next week.

Proposals for Vacated Space/GSC Swing Space

The Council reviewed a draft memorandum to APC about upcoming available space in Henderson Hall, Legett Hall half-basement, Teague, 1111 Research Parkway, and GSC swing space. It was decided to change the due date for proposals from September 29 to October 6. Council members suggested adding details for the format of the proposal, to address such issues as how the proposed move(s) will support faculty reinvestment, the functions of the requested space, number of individuals to be housed, and potential renovation needs (Teague only). Massey will consult with Powell on wording to add to the space profile about parking availability near the buildings.

Magill stated Gates mentioned the possibility of outsourcing renovations in his remarks to the Senate. Perry stated that the deans are reviewing a procurement committee report which addresses the issue.

Parrott asked if there are any plans for the Grove once the trailers are moved. He noted that the area is currently assigned to the division of Student Affairs for MSC programming. Sippial said

whatever is done with the space should be considered temporary since some of the land will be used for the grade separation.

Standard Administrative Procedure (SAP) for Construction Communication Procedure

At last week's CBE meeting, the Council reviewed Michigan State University's procedures for communicating construction-related information. Perry asked Sawtelle to draft a similar policy for A&M. Williams offered his assistance.

Other Business

- Summers inquired if there will be sufficient classroom space to accommodate the enrollment increase students. Perry stated that for next fall it is projected that the University will meet the state standard for classroom utilization. The participating deans have begun discussion on the use of Liberal Arts, Arts and Humanities building, which is to include state-of-the-art classrooms.