

Minutes
Council on the Built Environment
Texas A&M University
September 20, 2006

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

Non-voting members attending: Jim Calvin, Steve Hodge, Shelly Janac, James Massey, Chris Meyer, Raye Milburn, Joe Powell, Tom Regan, Nancy Sawtelle, and Dick Williams.

Guests: Ralph Davila, Wayne Williams, Gali Zilberstein, and Becky Carr.

Chemistry Renovations

As part of Chemistry's doctoral review process, the visiting committee noted that much of the space in the Chemistry complex is not up to peer standards. In the Council of Deans meeting this morning, Dean Newton proposed using part of the \$20 million PUF funds for code compliance/classroom conversion/backfill/renovations for the facility's renovation. The Council of Deans requested that CBE solicit requests from all the deans since there may be similar renovation needs in other colleges. After review of the proposals, CBE will make a recommendation to President Gates on the use of the funds. Perry will draft a memorandum for CBE review in advance of sending to the deans.

Conservation Study for Historic Buildings

Woodcock stated that the Getty Foundation application for a Campus Heritage grant (\$150,000 request with \$150,000 match from the University) was not funded. Although the Getty Foundation was complimentary of the university's proposal, they noted that none of the university's historic buildings are on the National Register of Historic Places.

Woodcock requests that the CBE endorse the development of a set of Heritage Conservation Guidelines for buildings and spaces in the historic core of campus, basically the area which the district planners are currently studying. The process would begin by engaging the services of a qualified team to evaluate existing qualities, analyze approaches to design and maintenance, and propose guidelines and standards.

The Council was receptive to the proposal but asked that Woodcock first make a request to the Design Review Board, who will in turn make a recommendation to the CBE.

Gruy Fountain

The Council reviewed a memo from Ed Davis about a donor request to fund a fountain near the front entrance of the Hagler Center. Since the Foundation leases land from the University, CBE approval is requested. Sippial moved and Summers seconded to approve the construction of a fountain. All members were in favor of the motion. Davis will be informed that the design must be approved through the President's Advisory Council on Art Policy (PACAP).

TCE Request

The Council reviewed a memo from Ed Smith at Texas Cooperative Extension. Ag Communications is in lease space until January, 2007, then will move to the Business Management Services Building (BMSB) on Texas and Dominik. TCE would like to enlarge the cubicles in BMSB and in order to accomplish this needs to purchase additional panels and is requesting that CBE fund this expense. The cost, including wiring changes, is \$39,000. The Council will pay this expense from contingency funds.

Also, the Family Development and Resource Management (FDRM) unit is currently located in GERG West. Since the BMSB is not large enough to accommodate both Ag Communications and FDRM, TCE is requesting that FDRM stay in GERG West until the Agriculture State Headquarters building is completed, at which time both units will move into the facility. Massey met with Smith to discuss other options since Sea Grant is scheduled to move to GERG West in January. Options include moving FDRM into part of the GSC swing space, using part of 1111 Research Parkway, or using lease space. If TCE is not able to remain in GERG West, they prefer the 1111 Research Parkway location. Before a decision is made, Massey will visit with Sea Grant to determine if part of the GSC swing space would suit their needs, allowing FDRM to remain in GERG West until they relocate to the new Agriculture building.

Agriculture Land Use

Perry stated he had received no comments from APC members on the Agriculture land use proposal. The area requested is property north of F&B Road and the proposed name for the development is the Agricultural and Environmental Life Sciences Center. Sippial moved and Magill seconded to approve the proposal and recommend the sites to President Gates. Each facility constructed on the sites will need to be approved by CBE.

Bisor said that James Hooton asked each System part for an inventory of all System real estate so he can develop a report for the Board of Regents. Meyer noted that state regulatory groups generally look at how the land is platted and consider the extended campus as part of TAMU.

A vote was taken on the motion and passed unanimously.

Spence Park

Perry said that CBE has been asked to provide input on use of the area of land south of Koldus, in between Kyle Field and the President's home. Although the area is known as Spence Park, a review of historical documents shows that Spence Park is actually the land area north of the Sanders Corps of Cadets Center. The land north of Koldus is used for tailgating and other activities and regulations on use, standards for maintaining, etc. need to be determined. CBE will work with Student Affairs on this issue.

Family Friendly Workspaces Update

Sawtelle has talked to representatives at University of California-Berkeley and University of Minnesota. Although both universities have licensed care child centers, neither have areas specifically set aside for students to use for reciprocal child care. She will continue to research the issue and update CBE at a future meeting.

Other Business

- Perry called attention to the draft open forum presentation. He asked for suggested changes to the document as soon as possible.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 27, 2006.