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Approved

MINUTES OF THE FACILITIES PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
CLARION UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA
CLARION, PENNSYLVANIA
November 21, 2013 – 3:15 p.m.
Carrier Building, Room 114

Members Present: Chairman Jon Beal, Diana Brush, Deb Fleeger, Tyler Kitzmiller, Jackie Knaust, Anita Lahr, Mike McConnell, Rein Pold, Brenda Polatty, Adam Roberts (Institutional Resources Committee), Steve Selker, Deb Sobina (via conference phone), Ric Taylor (Ex-officio), G. Chad Thomas

Others Present: John Massa, Marisa Nelson (Student News Reporting)

I. Approval of Minutes – A motion was made by Chad Thomas and seconded by Deb Fleeger to approve the October 2, 2013 minutes. Motion carried.

II. Additional Agenda Items:

1. Facilities Planning Committee Meeting Time

III. Old Business:

Items in Progress:

1. Foundation Suites – Ric Taylor

   Progress is continuing via team meetings with Clarion University Foundation, Inc., and items are up-to-date with designs. It is anticipated that the developer will be released to begin in January with signs of construction to be seen possibly by early spring.

2. Venango – Deb Sobina

   Plans are currently underway with permits and paperwork in anticipation of the pond dredge project next summer, contingent upon regulatory approval. With assistance by Dave Fagan, ongoing leaks to Rhoades Center are being addressed as needed. All other items are in conjunction with the Facilities Master Plan.

3. Facilities Master Plan – Ric Taylor

   Ric reported the Eastman Perkins Facilities Master Plan has been reported to the President and her council. Perkins Eastman is slated to return to campus in
January/February with plans to involve internal constituents such as the Council of Trustees, etc.

4. Becht Hall – Ric Taylor

Phase I was completed November 19; and, the renovation contractor is now on-site. To date there have been no change orders; so, the project is ahead of schedule at this point. The next phase includes placing the steel framework and pouring the concrete floors. It is not anticipated that there will be any road closures due to staging equipment; but, when the steel arrives it may be necessary to close areas temporarily; however, the campus community will be notified in advance. Plans call for four floors to be occupied; and, although there will be no external fire escapes Ric addressed questions regarding safety in that fire escapes will be located in the stairwells.

5. Tippin – Ric Taylor

Great progress is being made on the design boards. A meeting is slated for next week to discuss plans; and, architectural plans are due to the Department of General Services. Ric explained that recently ground sampling has been underway to determine the depth of underground utilities, as well as soil samples needed to assist the engineers with structural design.

6. Environmental Subcommittee – Rein Pold

Chad Thomas reported that Emily Wilson is the new Green Team president; and, they are currently in the process of reorganization. Rein reported that we have recycled 207,117 pounds of electronic equipment, which is a milestone in our recycling efforts. We currently use a recycler located in Tyrone, Pennsylvania; and, Rein recommended the Green Team may wish to consider a site visit to their facility at some point in the future.

7. Apple Sculpture – Chad Thomas

The sculpture is in place and is being utilized by students; however, it sustained damage due to vandalism to the stem and leaf. The items are in our possession; and, Chad and Shelly Wilson are in negotiations with the company to determine if they will stand behind their work because it was not built to standard per email correspondence prior to purchase. Repairs are estimated to be approximately $800.


Ric reported that summer deferred maintenance projects were completed regarding Becker, Stevens, Keeling Health Center Roof, Little Theater Roof, Becker HVAC, Stadium painting, Givan Hall Lines, Still Hall transformer, sidewalk replacement, Hart Chapel lighting, Carter Auditorium improvements, as well as preparations for the
new Scanning electron microscope which has been installed and fully functioning for the fall semester. Plans are now underway for next summer’s projects.

9. Reinhard Villages Sidewalk – Ric Taylor

Ric reported that he recently spoke with the Clarion University Foundation, Inc., and negotiations were completed with West Penn Power for a new pole relocation in regard to this project. Foundation engineers have responded to additional questions by PENNDOT; and, they are currently awaiting further action by PENNDOT.

10. Bus Service – Rein Pold

Rein reported that a meeting was held last week with representatives of Monroe Township, Area Transportation Authority, and Clarion University. Positive news was relayed in that student ridership numbers have increased significantly over recent fiscal years with September fiscal year 2012 at 11,112, fiscal year 2013 at 13,356, and fiscal year 2014 at 14,279 with an average daily ridership of 500. It was felt increased ridership could be due, in part, to the economy; but, it is also being favorably received by both students and the Clarion community. Discussion followed on compressed natural gas; and, ATA will investigate that possibility as a fuel source now that it is readily available near campus.

11. Egbert Signage – Ric Taylor

Ric indicated that additional Egbert signage was completed. In addition, as part of the Facilities Master Plan, a “way finding consultant” was on campus assessing current pedestrian walkways.

12. Trails – Ric Taylor/Rein Pold

Rein indicated that the University’s portion has been completed in that a Facilities Use Agreement has been developed. However, it is under review by the other constituents - Pennsylvania American Water, Clarion University Foundation, Inc., and Clarion Borough.

13. Page Street Parking – Ric Taylor

Discussion was held regarding status of the east side parking spaces on Page Street and concerns for pedestrian safety; and, although these spaces will be eliminated as a result of the forthcoming Tippin construction, it was felt this item should be addressed in the near term due to the heavy bus and pedestrian traffic early in the day. It was also noted that drivers utilizing the gym facilities are parking in those spaces in the early morning hours prior to time periods when Public Safety patrols for parking violations. Rein Pold offered to follow up with Interim Public Safety Director, Marcy Trombetta, regarding status with the Parking Committee; and, additionally, John Massa will place this item on the Safety Committee agenda for discussion.
IV. New Business:

1. Department Relocations – Ric Taylor

Purchasing and Contract employees have moved from Carrier building to McEntire building; and, Student Financial Services have moved to the basement floor of Carrier building until Becht Hall renovations have been completed. There is currently a proposal under consideration to move Learning Technology to the vacated space in Egbert.

2. Landscaping – Ric Taylor

Campus constituents may have noticed fall flowers that were planted in advance of the fall semester to welcome back students. The Facilities Master Plan will incorporate landscaping as one feature intended to aid with student retention and campus beautification. Plans are in place to plant flowers in the spring semester as well.

3. Synthetic Turf Replacement – Ric Taylor

The current Astroturf on stadium field is over ten years old, is past its expected life cycle and has been repaired as much as possible. In anticipation of the expected life cycle, monies have been set aside by Auxiliary Services for replacement. Rein added that a contract has been approved through July 1, 2014 with expected costs below $400,000. The replacement turf has improved design with better drainage capabilities. It was noted that the field is used by numerous entities in addition to Clarion University athletics, such as Special Olympics, Clarion High School, intramurals, etc.

4. Meeting Time – Jon Beal

It was suggested that future meeting times be changed from 3:15 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.; and, it was the consensus that this time change would work for most committee members.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2013 at 3:00 p.m. in Carrier 114. Chairman Beal and Ric Taylor will discuss whether agenda items warrant a meeting in December; and, the campus community will be notified if this meeting were to be cancelled.