

Facilities Subcommittee
September 10, 2019, Mtg #1
Approved : October 10, 2019

Attendees: Lisa Norr, Pat Keenan, Lori Davis, Loren Erickson, Laurie Fosnacht, Sam Kelly, Gail Kehoe, Lori Melton, Mindy Granley, Bill Payne, Craig Maly, Dana Lindaman, Tim LaGarde, Jonathan Wolenech. Pam Merzowski (support Staff)

Excused: John Rashid, Ian Pannkuk

Guests: Chris Stevens

Call to Order

Chris Stevens called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Chris, as past chair, gave an overview of the responsibilities of the Chair role and indicated that the committee must choose a new chair this year. His term is expired.

Approval of the May 14, 2019 meeting minutes

Action: A motion was made by Loren Erickson to approve the minutes with the clarification and seconded by Sam Kelly

The motion met with unanimous approval.

Introductions

Project Updates:

Ordean Court

The project is still under construction. They are a bit behind, approximately 80% completed, and are pouring concrete now. The weather is a factor in how quickly they can complete this. Planting has been deferred until spring.

Housing/Dining Center

Pre-design documents were submitted and approved. Currently the schematic design is being reviewed. There are now two sites rather than one: The new dining center will be adjacent to the existing one and housing will be in the original Griggs/V2 location and will be a 10 story 350 bed unit. This will go to the Regents in October for approval. Design is underway. The construction is set to begin next April. Pat will provide a conceptual rendering at our next meeting.

Ice Rink

The HVAC upgrade is complete. There was a delay of phase two, which is the refrigeration system. This is expected to be complete by the end of November. The space will be set up for soccer in the meantime.

Multicultural Center

Construction had been completed. Chris encouraged committee members to walk through and look at the space. We can look into having a future meeting in their conference room.

Duluth Traverse Trail

The use agreement with the City of Duluth is being finalized. UMD will obtain the vacated property as part of the agreement. Construction will start September 24th.

Campus Connector

This is on hold for now.

Bathroom hooks

One installation has been approved.

New Business:

Building public access policy, including hours of operation:

Tim L. explained the current issues/events that have taken place on campus, prompting the police to look into any existing policies to cite when dealing with this. There is no specific policy in place at this time, so it's been difficult to manage the situation; Police have no power to do anything in the absence of policy. Chief Huls is working with OGC (Office of General Counsel) and the University of Minnesota Police and is waiting for guidance. The policy will be system-wide, but the committee discussed how/if UMD can do anything (signage, etc). Many buildings already have specific building hours, but not academic buildings. There was discussion on signage, which could help, but may also have a negative effect on the campus culture/message to students. It may make the campus feel less welcoming. Safety issues were discussed (doors open very early, lighting). Posting hours (6 am – 10 pm in public spaces) may end up simply being posted on the website.

Sculptures/artwork on Campus

Discussion on placement of 3D art on campus. There are a number of pieces to be installed on campus:

CASCADE– This had been placed in Ordean Court, but is now in Solon Campus Center.

ORBITOR – This used to be on campus, but is currently being restored, due to damage.

SKY – Currently in TC. It has not been determined where it will go yet.

Discussion included who should be responsible for placement of these and other pieces, considering the many factors to consider. An Advisory Committee was suggested, to include landscapers and art experts. Bill P. reported that the Tweed Museum currently has a Commission on 3D art. Perhaps the new Director of the Tweed can create a Board. There will be more to come on this issue.

Schedule for upcoming committee meetings:

Pam will contact members as soon as all seats are filled to find the optimal time for committee meetings for the year.

New Chair:

The floor was opened for nominations for the Chair position. Nobody volunteered. The committee decided to table this until we have a full committee present, if possible. Lisa N. volunteered to guide the next meeting until a chair is selected.

Reports/updates/questions from committee members:

Upcoming projects:

After a question on upcoming building projects it was decided that we will discuss the Six Year Plan and the Facilities Conditions Assessment at our next meeting.

Mindy G reported that UMD is expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure, as the demand has increased over time. They are free for now, with a 4 hour limit. LED lighting retrofit begins this fall. Testing new lights/fixtures in Darland Admin Building and NRRI, and then marching down public hallways. The project is in the first phase of 3 future expected phases, and it reduces electricity use (kWh). This saves operational costs and contributes toward carbon emissions for UMD to meet our campus carbon commitment. UMD solar production is increasing.

Lisa N reported that there are now electric scooters on campus, provided by an outside company. The rental agreement is completed via an App. The company assumes any liability.

Chris S reported that hallway displays (last year's project) are now evolving to include all campus signage. Chris and Lynne Williams are working on this issue. Also, the request from Lynne last year regarding signage on the stair risers is on hold.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Merzowski