

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY SENATE

CAMPUS PLANNING AND FINANCE COUNCIL
Minutes of Tuesday, 22 September 2009, 3 p.m.
Faculty Lounge, Bernhard Center

Members present: Raja Aravamuthan, Cheryl Bruey, David Dakin, Kevin High, Dean Honsberger, John Jellies, Marilyn Kritzman, David Lemberg, Michael Miller, Lowell Rinker, Gay Walker

Guests: Tim Greene, provost and vice president for academic affairs, and Bob Miller, associate vice president for community outreach

Also present: Ann Cox, Office of the Vice President for Business and Finance; Bassam Harik, vice provost for budget and personnel; Fritz Klug, Western Herald; William Rantz, Aviation; and Jan Van Der Kley, associate vice president for business and finance, and controller

Procedural Items

Acceptance of the Agenda

A motion was made by Rinker to accept the agenda as presented, seconded by Jellies. Motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes

Dakin moved to approve the minutes of 21 July 2009 as resent, seconded by Aravamuthan. Motion carried.

Chair's Comments – Paul Solomon

Solomon welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Information/Discussion Items

Memorandum of Action (MOA) Fund Raising Implementation – Tim Greene, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Greene discussed the projected timeline with the deans, chairs and faculty for input for the development and fund raising process. Solomon recommended that Bud Bender, vice president for development; Jamie Jeremy, executive director of alumni relations; and Cheryl Roland, executive director of alumni relations; be invited to speak to the council on the Fund Raising Implementation process. Greene will talk to Bender on this subject.

Western Michigan University's Participation in the Downtown Event Center Project and Business Technology Research (BTR) Park – Bob Miller, Office of Community Outreach

Both of these projects are in motion. The first phase of revitalizing the downtown and Arcadia Creek West was launched some 15 years ago. Projects have included the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, Kalamazoo Valley Community College Downtown Campus, National City Bank, now Varnum, and creek infrastructure. To date, some \$250 million in private-sector investments have been made in downtown Kalamazoo since the Arcadia Creek project began.

Downtown Tomorrow Incorporated (DTI) is a group of citizens. Many, but not all, are business persons in the community which incorporated outside the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) group.

The WMU property (known as the Cole Gilmore property) was gifted to Western Michigan University in 2000 with an assessed value of \$6 million. The property will revert to Downtown Kalamazoo Incorporated (DKI) in 2014 if no project emerges.

Public Act 180 is a way in which the City of Kalamazoo can utilize the 1% voluntary tax structure on restaurants, hotels and rental cars to fund this project. Comerica Park utilized this taxing process for their construction. The tax proposal will be presented to the voters no earlier than May 2010. Bob Miller indicated that President John Dunn has said that if the community decides this is a good thing, Western Michigan University will play a role, although this role has not been defined.

The overall goal of the Downtown Event Committee is to have the Kalamazoo Wings hockey team, Western's men's hockey team and Western's men's basketball team being housed in this new facility. This way, the University will be compensated for their original gifted property.

At the request of the Kalamazoo County Commission, an independent vetting committee is reviewing the financial proforma for this project. Former Vice President Robert Beam is chairing this committee. WMU is independently running numbers on this project.

Western Michigan University is part of the discussions. There are proponents for this project and those who are against the project. The buildings that were on this piece of property have been taken down over the past two years, as tenants leases were up for renewal. The repair bills were cost prohibitive to keep these buildings operational.

Solomon recommended inviting WMU Board of Trustees Chairman Ken Miller and President Dunn to the next council meeting to discuss this project with the council along with other projects involving the University.

The Orchard Property was conveyed to Western Michigan University in 1977. Since this time, WMU leased this property to Michigan State University. WMU intends to expand the BTR Park onto the Orchard Property. The proximity to the existing BTR Park and College of Engineering and Applied Sciences complex is an advantage and the University owns the property. There are three parcels left in the BTR Park for purchase. This number does not include the soccer fields. There are no plans for the soccer fields to become a part of the project at this time.

Capital Outlay Priority List – David Dakin, Director of Planning, Facilities Management

No change to the list from last spring.

Sangren Hall Project – David Dakin, Director of Planning, Facilities Management

No decisions have been made on this project. Rinker indicated that all avenues are being reviewed on this project.

Student Apartments – David Dakin, Director of Planning, Facilities Management.

No decisions have been made on this project.

Re-Working of Standing Committees – Paul Solomon

Solomon recommended changes to the standing committees, which would allow the council to be more effective. The Agenda Committee is fairly informal with Rinker, Solomon and Miller setting the agenda. Solomon recommended the following committees: Agenda Committee, Budget and Finance Committee, Campus Planning Design Issues Committee, and a Sustainability Committee. The Transportation Committee can be merged with the Sustainability Committee. Solomon will discuss this with Glasser and report back to the council. The Signs, Landscape and Sculpture Committee could be folded into the Campus Planning and Design Issues Committee.

A motion was made by Kritzman to establish four standing committees:

1. Agenda Committee
2. Sustainability and Transportation Committee
3. Budget and Finance Committee
4. Campus Planning and Design Committee

The motion was seconded by High. Motion carried. Solomon asked Miller to chair the Budget and Finance Committee. Solomon asked Bruey to co-chair the Campus Planning and Design Committee. Rinker recommended that Dakin be on this committee. The committees are to develop the charges and bring recommendations to the council.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Miller, seconded by Rinker. Motion carried.
The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Recording Secretary

AnnMarie Cox