

Physical Environment Committee Minutes

April 22, 2015
8:00am – 9:00am
Lincoln Building Third Floor Conference Room

MEETING CALLED BY	Ted Curtis & Harvey Sterns – Co-Conveners
TYPE OF MEETING	University Council Committee Meeting
FACILITATORS	Ted Curtis & Harvey Sterns – Co-Conveners
NOTES SUBMITTED BY:	Shelly Keller
ABSENT	Chuck Kunsman
ATTENDEES	Ted Curtis, Co-Convener Harvey Sterns, Chair/Co-Convener Ann Hassenpflug, Vice Chair Shelly Keller, Secretary Stewart Blessing Julie Hykes Zach Kisor Isaac Lampner Denise Montanari Shawn Stevens Bill Thelin Matt Wilson
INVITED GUESTS	Ralph Morrone

Agenda topics

MINUTE APPROVAL

DISCUSSION	Approval of the 03/18/2015 minutes was requested.
CONCLUSIONS	Julie made a motion to approve the minutes and Stewart seconded the motion. All members in attendance were in favor.

MEETING ITEMS

General Discussion

- Harvey explained the election process for UC which will mean our group will have elections in May or June.
- Ann asked if we do decide to meet in May can the time be changed to 8:30am. All in attendance agreed.
- Zach gave an update on Campus Clean Up day. Smaller numbers in attendance for the student groups that showed up. Zach said the student groups enjoyed this project. Zips Programming Board and others who were involved want to make this a yearly event but for a week instead of just a day. Zach is reaching out to Red Bull to combine their event with ours, and will also try to get additional funding. The goal would be to create an awareness week, and incorporate this in the make a difference day. Zach was able to speak with the Groundskeepers and would like to meet with them to see what our committee can do to help as they are our first eyes on campus. Ralph and Shelly will sit in on the meeting with Zach and the Groundskeepers.

Eric Green - Akron Inside Out Initiative.

- This project originated at the Detroit Art Museum and involves 30 pieces of art. Akron is the first in the area to do this. UA has already asked for 4 pieces of art out of 30 that we would like on our campus. Eric is working with Stephen Myers on this effort. Akron Art Museum will do the art and brochures. Pieces will be in unexpected places. (See ATTACHMENT 4-22-15 Akron Inside Out Flyers NHill-TPath-DtownAkr & ATTACHMENT 4-22-15 Akron Inside Out) This plan was already run through UA Legal department. Ralph asked if Safety and Police were made aware of project. Do they need a presence on campus near these displays? Shelly advised the EJ Fountain is turned off and on during special times of the year. It is their hope to tie in the bike trail and make these art pieces stops on the trail and walking route. Shelly made a motion to approve this project and Denise seconded the motion. All in attendance agreed. Official kickoff for this event will be in August.

Dean Matt Wilson – UA School of Law

- Ted advised the discussion for the School of Law Building started 7-8 years ago.
- Dean Wilson started by showing a power point. (SEE ATTACHMENT 4-22-15 Akron Law Bldg Presentation).
- After a couple of starts and stops we are finally moving forward on renovations. There are 203 law schools around the country. Matt has visited many of them over the years. UA's is in the top three of needing to be torn down or start over. Challenging times in terms of admissions. Law schools have had to shrink their sizes. Some are merging. Dissatisfaction of students and we are losing students to top institutions.
- Upon being hired Matt's top priority was to make sure this renovation happened. Working with president they have a proposal of 21 million dollar renovation of UA's law facilities. Law school has been saving money for this for years. State of Ohio pledged 5 million to project.
- The proposal made to president was two phases. Phase 1 is 14 million, which is what we have currently. Remaining 7 million will be phase 2.
- There have been 5 different additions over time. Signage is not great either. The main entrance is confusing; many enter through the West Hall entrance. West Hall will come down and will be rebuilt into an oval shape. The new wing has been dubbed "The Egg" or "Cracked Egg".
- First floor will have a 125 seat courtroom. As you walk in you will look at the judge's bench and new skylights will go up.
- New signage will be on the north entrance. The brick will be peeled away to have glass walls.
- Egg will be sloped at the top to hide mechanical equipment.
- Two circular 75 seat classrooms will be in the Egg addition. A cafe will be in there also in hopes to get non law students into our building as well.
- Classrooms will be ADA compliant. We will add glass walls for light. The current 9 different floorings will be reduced to 4.
- Second floor is part of Phase 2. Our library right now is too big. There is currently enough space that we can move our staff and faculty into the area right now during renovations. We will be moving the faculty in June of 2015 to library. Enough office space there that we don't even need cubicles. The first floor will take 6-8 months. By fall of 2016 we will be able to use phase 1. The Egg will take 18 months to complete.
- Right now, the faculty are all over but we will be together once this is done. To make the 2nd and 3rd floor happen we have to raise funds. We are just now beginning a new campaign. Hope to have 2 million by May. By summer of 2016 is Matt's target date for the remaining 7 million.
- Fall of 2016 is the goal of when we hope to move the faculty again. Classroom and administration will be in place.
- Law clinics are looking for space on campus for their needs. Quaker Square was a suggested option. They are currently residing in West Hall right now. Contingency plan is not to fail.
- Phase two should be quick, possibly only taking a year. Will begin talks about housing 20 faculty members. Bill stated due to how the communications have gone on other projects he feels it is very important to talk to faculty as soon as possible.
- Matt stated they talk about increase in enrollment every day. In the last 15 years in law schools at least 50% have built or renovated their schools. Haven't seen anyone yet do it for as low as us.
- Currently working on revamping our marketing and web page.
- Do accreditation issues affect the facility? Yes. Accreditation body coming next year. They will be able to see changes in progress.

Ralph Morrone - Classroom Survey results

- Ralph passed around the survey results (SEE ATTACHMENT 4-22-15 2015 Survey Results).
- 1200 partial and full responses total. 900 of those were full. Would like to compile room and building data. Ralph hopes to get some quick fixes done this summer and then resubmit this survey. Will continue to hone in on survey.
- Crouse is on list to be discussed for mothballing but there are no dates as of right now. Some discussion that Ayer might be removed to expand the Student Union.

Other Attachments:

- Tree Planting Ceremony 4-22-15
- WEBINAR impactonlearning2015 4-29-15

Ted moved to adjourn the meeting. Stewart seconded the motion and all in attendance agreed.

Next Meetings:

- June 17, 2015 - **8:15am** (note time change)
- July 8, 2015 - **8:15am** (note time change)