

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Physical Environment Committee
Wednesday, February 21, 2018
Lubar N440, 8:30 AM
MINUTES

Present: R. Badger, K. Duce, G. Fredlund, D. Genzmer, D. Heathcote, *ex officio* T. Howard, W. Huddleston, *ex officio* G. Hurtado, S. Kennedy, V. Klump, K. Nelson, M. Petering, J. Rodriguez, D. Schadewald, L. Stoner, K. Surerus, R. Van Harpen, K. Wallick, A. Wiseman
Guests: J. McCune, M. Priem, M. Spandanula, Z. Steuerwald, R. Van Harpen, K. Wolfert

- I. *Call to Order.* D. Heathcote called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.
- II. *Approval of Agenda and Minutes.*
 - A. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved as amended.
 - B. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the December 13, 2017 meeting were approved as presented. The committee discussed a March meeting and it was agreed the committee will meet on March 28th.
- III. *Unfinished Business.*
 - A. Campus Smoking Policy update – Legal is still reviewing the revised policy. D. Heathcote suggested that the PEC form a working group with other critical parties (Norris, Police, students, Facilities) to discuss implementation and communication strategies.
- IV. *New Business.*
 - A. Introduction to Skype for Business (S. Wadhwa)-Postponed until March meeting. R. Badger reported that AT&T is doubling cost of landlines so UWM is considering Skype for business to replace all landlines.
 - B. Green Fund- John McCune, chair of the Environmental Sustainability Mentorship Committee at UWM. The committee reviewed and accepted applications for a new Green Fund that was created from student segregated fees and supports student-led projects that increase UWM's environmental sustainability. This semester all accepted projects will be implemented. The four projects are
 1. Revitalize the green roof on the School of Freshwater Sciences building;
 2. Create a solar picnic table in Spaight's Plaza;
 3. Ban use of plastic bags on campus;
 - and 4. Create a wooden bike shelter for bike racks.J. McCune and project heads will attend to discuss further at the March 28th PEC meeting.

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- C. S-76 Chalking Policy – Important to communicate to Student Involvement and student organizations. K. Wallick moved and L. Stoner seconded approving the policy as revised. Motion passed with unanimous vote.

V. *Reports.*

- A. Transportation Subcommittee- G. Fredlund reported on summer bids and financial report. The Subcommittee reviewed budgets to date and endorsed a proposal to accommodate parking for prospective students and guests of the Welcome Center. Visitor parking will remain at the Pavilion and guests will take a shuttle to the Welcome Center (approximate cost of shuttle \$80K). Subcommittee felt this is the best and least disruptive option. Summer bids for repair of all except the Union parking structures came back much lower than expected. Original estimate was for \$2.5 M, but bids came in at \$1.1M. G. Fredlund moved and W. Huddleston seconded that parking for prospective students and visitors remain at the Pavilion pending the approval of funding for a dedicated shuttle service to the UWM Welcome Center. Motion passed with unanimous vote.

R. Van Harpen explained tax changes and how they will impact parking costs. She reported that discussions are underway at the state level on implementing the federal tax law passed in December 2017. The law no longer allows paying for parking on a pre-tax basis. This will affect approximately 1700 faculty and staff at UWM and result in an average 20% increase in costs to employees since they must now pay taxes on their parking dollars. The plans are to not retroactively charge money already taken out pre-tax and convert it to after-tax dollars. R. Van Harpen anticipates this will be put into effect within the next month. The PEC urged her to devise the best way to communicate the change to campus as soon as possible. In addition to the effects on employees who pay for parking, this could also affect the parking program on campus if revenues decrease.

- B. Campus Space Committee - G. Hurtado and K. Surerus reported NWQ hired Kahler Slater Architects who are currently meeting with users and looking at building conditions and codes. K. Surerus noted that final decisions won't be made until late summer and that the project will take up to five years to complete (in stages).

- C. Classroom Report- M. Priem reported on the 2017 classroom use and funding. EMS renovations will occur in summer 2018. L Stoner asked how decisions are made to convert rooms to active classrooms. M. Priem explained that CETL and f faculty are consulted and that faculty are able to request specific classrooms.

Discussion about reevaluating building codes based on active shooter concerns including the option to make lock crash bar keys available to instructors for use in emergencies. R. Van Harpen noted that an active shooter preparation working group reviewed these issues previously. PEC suggested that a group be established to continue reviewing potential issues and solutions.

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- D. Lubar Entrepreneurship Center and UWM Welcome Center – K. Wolfert reported construction started and SMA has been hired as the general contractor. Excavation has commenced and expected completion is Spring 2019.

VI. *Announcements.*

- A. Campus Courtesy Phones – R. Badger reported the University pays monthly for campus phones that no one is using. UITS has been removing the phones and expect all will be removed in near future.
- B. Other – S. Kennedy asked about charging units that hold catered events for facility services to clean up after the event. He described issues with trash being left in KIRC and suggested implementing a policy that requires groups reserving rooms for catered events on evenings and weekends be held responsible for clean up or for paying custodial services to clean up. The PEC discussed possible options including making sure building chairs are notified of night and weekend events and requiring a deposit to hold catered events in any campus space.

- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

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