

UWM Physical Environment Committee  
 February 21, 2024  
 8:30am – 10:00am  
 Meeting Minutes

1. Call to order. The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m.
2. Attendance.

Name	Present	Absent
Ben Church (FAC)	X	
Hobart Davies (FAC)		EXCUSED
Jeb Willenbring (FAC)	X	
Jocelyn Szczepaniak-Gillece (FAC)	X	
John Boyland (FAC)	X	
Karen Wolfert (AS)	X	
Kaushal Chari (Dean)		X
Konstantin Sobolev (FAC)	X	
Nicole Oswald (AS)		X
Nicole Stelzner (AS)	X	
Philip Warren (AS)	X	
Rick Koehler (US)	X	
Robert (Bob) Schneider (FAC)	X	
Rose Sauers (US)	X	
Stephen White (FAC)	X	
Tim Steffan (US)		X
Valerica (Vali) Raicu (FAC)	X	
Wendy Huddleston (FAC)	X	
< > GFC rep		
< > APBC rep		
Tanner Cronce (student member)	X	
Meghan Murphy-Lee (AS) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	
Jen Francis (Dir) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	
Kristene Surerus (FAC) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	
Carrie Driscoll (AS) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	
Mike Priem (AS) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	
Melissa Spadanuda (AVC) <i>ex-officio</i>	X	

Others in attendance:

1. Automatic consent
  - a. September 20, 2023 minutes. Approved by consensus.
  - b. Meeting Agenda. Approved by consensus.

2. Old Business – none

3. New Business

- a. Welcome new members of the PEC
  - i. Jeb Willenbring
  - ii. Tanner Kronce
- b. Campus accessibility issues
  - i. Weather-related accessibility concerns. Snow removal not sufficient for people who are mobility and/or visually impaired. ARC employee fell and hit her head in January after the major snowfall. Curb cuts especially need to be cleaned, not only sidewalks. Snow removal is a joint responsibility between the City of Milwaukee and campus. Salting is the typical process versus breaking the ice at the curb cuts. One issue was mentioned about pre-emptive salting around drains. Another suggestion was heating dangerous/important junctions through electrical current or diverting heat from buildings (longer term solution). Civil engineering solutions may be needed for those critical junctions. M. Spadanuda requests that people report specific locations requiring attention to facilities (building chair or facilities service desk; <https://uwm.edu/facility-services/>). The committee is sensitive to austerity measures affecting FPM.
  - ii. The ARC is not very accessible. The location, ramps and elevator are challenging for clients. Accessibility is a real challenge. Space planning has the location of ARC on the radar knowing Mitchell may not be the ideal location. ARC is creating a sensory space in the next couple of months.
  - iii. Status of the repair of the first-floor bathroom on Mellencamp. R. Koehler will follow up with this request.
  - iv. MOTION (Sobolev/Sauers): To establish a weather-related campus accessibility task force with the objective to collect information about existing initiatives, current problems and potential path forward to make our campus radically welcoming for all. Motion passed 12-0-1.
    - 1. Committee membership: Meghan, Rick, Konstantin, Nicole Stelzner, Melissa *Ex officio*. Meghan will call the first meeting.

4. Standing business

- a. Space Planning Subcommittee (Kristene Surerus). No report. Will have a meeting late March / early April.
- b. ADAAC (Meghan Murphy-Lee). The main activity is creating a training module for faculty on how implement accommodations. ARC had an open house.

5. Closed session - The Physical Environment Committee may move into closed session as permitted by Wis. Stats. sec. 19.85(1)(e) for the purposes of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session. No closed session business scheduled for this meeting.
6. Announcements.
7. Meeting adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 9:31 a.m.
8. Next meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.