

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
December 3, 2015
Administrative Services III Building, Room 301

Lisa Johnson called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. Lisa Johnson chaired the meeting in the absence of chair Barbara Fair. The following voting members attended the meeting: Dick Bernhard, Liz Bowen, Gene Bressler, Karen DeWitt, Gabriel Firestone, John Griggs, Daniel Harper, Bruce Keene, Stephen Puryear, John Royal, Alan Tonelli, Joe Wells, and Willy Yamamoto.

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING: Cathy Reeve and Tom Skolnicki

GUESTS: Lisa Johnson, Mark Michaelson

ADDITIONAL DISTRIBUTION: Steve Arndt, Jack Colby, Rusty Earl, Barbara Fair, Shashank Bebbar, Taylor Jeffreys, Jasleen Kaur, David Kelly, Brandon Moore, Art Rice

OLD BUSINESS:

Lisa Johnson called for a motion to approve the minutes for the April 9, 2014 meeting. Al Tonelli noted that the Physical Environment Committee (PEC) meeting at which the committee raised concerns about the loss of parking spaces at College of Textiles was the September 4, 2014 meeting, not the November 6, 2014 meeting. It was also noted that the Appendix "AF 15/16 Transportation Program and Rate Changes" was not attached to the meeting minutes. The Appendix title should be corrected to read "AY 15/16 Transportation Program and Rate Changes" and should be attached to the approved minutes. A motion was made to approve the minutes as amended, was seconded and minutes were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Lisa Johnson led discussion regarding the August 24, 2015 memorandum in which Vice Chancellor Leffler requested that, due to duplication of duties with other university committees, the Committee on Committees remove the Physical Environment Committee's standing committee status and designate it as an advisory committee. She shared the membership and charge for the Campus Design Review Panel (CDRP), explaining its role in reviewing projects with a budget of \$2,000,000 or greater and that have an impact on the exterior appearance of a building, or projects with an impact on the physical master plan of the campus, some of which have budgets less than \$2,000,000. She outlined the panel's role in making recommendations to the Trustees Buildings and Property Committee, and discussed the composition of the panel membership.

Lisa Johnson noted that the Campus Environmental Sustainability Team (CEST) has been leading efforts to make all areas of campus more sustainable. Dick Bernhard attested to CEST's effectiveness in this regard. Liz Bowen stated that CEST was transitioning to a new organization, the Sustainability Council, which will have broader representation from academics and research. Gabriel Firestone indicated that the new committee should have formal representation by a graduate student.

Dick Bernhard stated that review of parking regulations and parking permit fees has not been part of the duties of the Faculty Senate, and Cathy Reeve agreed that it typically has been the role of the PEC in January or February of each year, although this review has always been advisory to the Vice Chancellor for Finance and Administration, who approves the fees to ensure that operations are fiscally sound after considering the committee's comments and recommendation. Cathy Reeve stated that outside of that process, the Student Senate reviews and approves the student transit fee every two years.

Dick Bernhard stated that while the CDRP membership is made up of a people with professional expertise, because the PEC is open to any faculty or staff, review of projects by the PEC results in a more broad perspective which is important. Lisa Johnson noted that six of the fifteen members do not have design expertise, and that in the past membership included a student, but the student members often could not attend. She stated that she is open to revisiting student representation on the CDRP since students use campus differently than do faculty and staff.

Discussion turned to what the duties for the PEC should be in the future. Dick Bernhard stated that communication in both directions is important, and that in addition to the committee providing perspective to the administration, the sharing of information about forthcoming physical development and physical changes on campus is also an important function of the PEC.

In her absence, Barbara Fair sent an email (attached). Lisa Johnson read the email to the committee. Regarding committee membership, it was generally agreed that the broad membership that exists now is beneficial, including representation by all senate bodies and both undergraduate and graduate students. There was general agreement that the new Vice Chancellor, Scott Douglass, should advise how the committee could best serve the university, and that any vote by the membership regarding the future of the committee should be delayed until a future meeting.

John Griggs, Bruce Keene and John Royal led additional discussion regarding bicycle safety on and around campus. John Griggs stated how important safe bicycling on the future Pullen Road extension, with Bruce concurring that protected bike lanes on Pullen Road are preferred, and that the existing bridge over Western Boulevard was lacking safe bicycle facilities. Daniel Harper noted the challenge in travelling between North and Centennial precincts in less than an hour's time, and that improvements should focus on reducing the travel time by bike or on foot, as well as on safety.

There was consensus that the next meeting will be in January or February to continue discussion of the PEC's role in the future, and to review the parking policies and fees.

There was no other new business. The committee adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

NC STATE

Thomas Skolnicki <tjskolni@ncsu.edu>

PEC Agenda for Dec. 3

Barbara Fair <bfair@ncsu.edu>

Thu, Dec 3, 2015 at 4:20 PM

To: Julia Brooks <julia_brooks@ncsu.edu>

Cc: Arthur Rice <arrl@ncsu.edu>, Bruce Keene <bwkeene@ncsu.edu>, Catherine Reeve <cgreeve2@ncsu.edu>, David Kelly <drkelly3@ncsu.edu>, Elizabeth Bowen <etbowen@ncsu.edu>, Gabriel Firestone <gfirest@ncsu.edu>, Joe Wells <jrjwells@ncsu.edu>, John Griggs <jrgriggs@ncsu.edu>, John Royal <jnroyal@ncsu.edu>, Karen DeWitt <kedewitt@ncsu.edu>, Lisa Johnson <lhjohns2@ncsu.edu>, Richard Bernhard <bernarh@ncsu.edu>, Rusty Earl <trearl@ncsu.edu>, Stephen Puryear <smpuryea@ncsu.edu>, Taylor Jeffreys <etjjeffre@ncsu.edu>, Thomas Skolnicki <tjskolni@ncsu.edu>, Chris Gunter <cgunter@ncsu.edu>, Jack Colby <jkcolby@ncsu.edu>, Alan Tonelli <atonelli@ncsu.edu>, Brandon Moore <mbmoore4@ncsu.edu>, Gene Bressler <ehbressl@ncsu.edu>, Lisa Bass <lbass@ncsu.edu>, Shashank Hebbar <shebbar@ncsu.edu>, Willy Yamamoto <wyamamo@ncsu.edu>, Steven Arndt <saarndt@ncsu.edu>

Dear members of the PEC,

Please forgive me for not making it to the meeting today. I am afraid I made a booboo, and did not look closely at the meeting location and so went to Winslow Hall. I was a bit late already, as I had a meeting with a student go longer than anticipated.

I believe that Lisa likely ran a very good meeting and that you had a vote about the future of the committee. I believe that making the PEC an advisory committee rather than a standing committee is a reasonable option, and I would have voted yes for that option.

I think we tried to make a difference on campus in our time on the committee, but I know many of us were frustrated. It seemed that many of the development plans brought before the committee had already been finalized prior to presentation to the committee. I did speak with Steve Arndt about our frustrations, and he understood. It seems as well that there were some redundancies in committee responsibilities, and therefore much of what we were doing had already been done by another committee.

I also wanted you to know that Steve really wanted to attend the meeting today, but was unable to due to a family matter. I am sure we all understand that these things happen. I wish his family the best.

I apologize to those of you who may have just joined the committee this year for such a strange turn of events. As an extension specialist and teacher, I know none of us were probably too sad about not having to go anymore meetings! We are all very busy...

Still, I want to thank everyone for their willingness to be a part of the committee, and to help ensure thoughtful, sustainable construction on our campus.

Sincerely,

Barbara

[Quoted text hidden]

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Trees are the Answer...

Barbara Fair, PhD
Associate Professor, Landscape Extension Specialist
ISA Certified Arborist
Campus Box 7609
154 Kilgore Hall
Raleigh, NC 27695

12/4/2015

North Carolina State University Mail - PEC Agenda for Dec. 3

work phone: [919-513-2804](tel:919-513-2804)
mobile phone: [919-749-2011](tel:919-749-2011)