



UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE

General Faculties Council
Facilities Development Committee
Open Session Minutes

Thursday, March 26, 2015
2-31 South Academic Building (SAB)
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

ATTENDEES:

Voting Members:

Elisabeth Le	Chair (Delegate), Interim Provost and Vice-President (Academic)
Megha Bajaj	Member (Delegate), Graduate Students' Association Vice-President (Academic) or Delegate
Cheryl Harwardt	Member, Academic Staff
Phil Haswell	Member, Support Staff
Don Hickey	Member, Vice-President (Facilities and Operations)
Cory Hodgson	Member (Delegate), Students' Union Vice-President (Academic) or Delegate
Zizhao (Finn) Wang	Member, Undergraduate Student Member at-large

Non-Voting Members:

Pat Jansen	Member (Delegate), Associate Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), Resource
Ben Louie	Member, University Architect, Resource

Presenter(s):

Gerald Beasley	Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian
Stanford Blade	Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)
Lee Foote	Director, Devonian Botanic Garden
Elisabeth Le	Professor, Faculty of Arts, and Acting Chair, GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC)
Shannon Loughran	Accommodation Planner, Office of the University Architect
Ben Louie	University Architect
Pat Jansen	Associate Vice-President, Planning and Project Delivery (Facilities and Operations)
Lorna Baker-Perri	Associate Director, Accommodation Planning and Programming, Office of the University Architect

Staff:

Andrea Patrick, Acting Coordinator, GFC Facilities Development Committee

OPENING SESSION

1. Approval of the Agenda

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Elisabeth Le, Professor, Faculty of Arts, and Acting Chair, GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC)

Discussion:

The Acting Chair proposed a reorganization of the Agenda in order to accommodate the schedule of a presenter.

Motion: Wang/Harwardt

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the Agenda, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Approval of the Open Session Minutes of February 26, 2015

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Elisabeth Le, Professor, Faculty of Arts, and Acting Chair, GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC)

Motion: Haswell/Hodgson

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve the Minutes of February 26, 2015.

CARRIED

3. Comments from the Acting Chair

The Acting Chair commented on a number of items of interest to members.

Mr Hickey reported to members on the establishment of the University of Alberta Properties Trust Inc.

A member enquired about the potential role of the GFC Facilities Development Committee (FDC) in regards to this endeavor.

A member sought clarification surrounding consultation between this new entity and the University of Alberta in relation to development.

ACTION ITEMS

4. Research and Collections Resource Facility (RCRF) Functional Programme

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Gerald Beasley, Vice-Provost and Chief Librarian; Lorna Baker-Perri, Associate Director, Accommodation Planning and Programming, Office of the University Architect; Shannon Loughran, Accommodation Planner, Office of the University Architect

Purpose of the Proposal: To present the functional programme requirements for RCRF. This will replace the existing Book and Record Depository (BARD), whose lease expires in 2017, and will relocate one million book volumes off of North Campus, to ease campus space pressure and accommodate new technological functions for Library Services.

Discussion:

Mr Beasley provided members with an introduction of the proposal, emphasizing his support of it, and noting that the contents of the Book and Record Depository (BARD) are still generating new knowledge and that decanting the materials within it to the Research and Collections Resource Facility (RCRF) preserves the assets into a more functional and accessible space. He noted that this will be linked to the academic mission of the University of Alberta. He noted, as well, that students are increasingly using library spaces for study and group purposes, as well as access to librarians and technology, and that this proposal provides more of those resources.

Ms Loughran introduced herself to members and provided members with a definition of the term 'functional programme'. She reported that this project began in 2006 and that BARD met capacity in 2012. She explained that BARD has resulted in several operational challenges for members of Library Services. She noted that the value of this collection is \$700 million.

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, she provided members with photographs of the BARD facility and an overview of the proposal's goals. She reported on the specific categories within the programme, including high density storage shelving, specialized areas, and office and public use areas. She provided members with the next steps for this proposal.

Members, during the discussion in relation to this proposal, expressed a number of comments and questions, including, but not limited to: clarification surrounding the lease expiry date for BARD and whether there is enough time to move the collection; clarification about how fire prevention is maintained in such a facility; how the RCRF fits into the Long Range Development Plan (LRDP) for South Campus; whether a specific site has been identified for RCRF; whether the schematic design includes computer space; that there are multiple usages for library space and clarification surrounding how all uses have been accounted for in the planning.

Motion: Hickey/Wang

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed Research and Collections Resource Facility (RCRF) Functional Programme, as proposed by Planning and Project Delivery and as set forth in Attachment 1 (excluding specifics related to the siting of this facility), as the basis for further planning and design.

CARRIED

5. Multi-faith Prayer and Meditation Space Design Development

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter: Ben Louie, University Architect

Purpose of the Proposal: To provide a multi-faith prayer and meditation space on North Campus in support of student life, student achievement and recruitment.

Discussion:

Mr Louie noted that this was a student-led initiative, and invited student members to introduce this proposal.

Ms Bajaj reported that this project has been in development for several years, noting that Dr Frank Robinson, previous Dean of Students, was instrumental in helping to formalize this project. Ms Bajaj

explained that a dedicated prayer space will allow students a special place to address their wellness needs, through meditation or prayer.

Mr Diaz thanked members for their consideration of this initiative. He reported that this proposal meets the needs of several different groups in one central location and that this addresses a longstanding need for meditation and faith/spiritual space.

Mr Louie noted that the current dedicated prayer space, within the Students' Union Building, is inadequate. He explained that the design of the proposed space considered many factors, including operational aspects as well as the functionality of the space. With the aid of a PowerPoint presentation, he reported on the functional design considerations, the social aspects of the space, and cultural diversity and gender considerations. He provided members with a visual rendering of the proposed space.

Mr Louie reported on the cultural and architectural influences referenced during the design of the space and emphasized that the space will not favor one faith.

Members, during the discussion surrounding this proposal, expressed a number of questions and comments, including but not limited to: clarification surrounding the exact number of faith groups consulted during the development of this proposal; whether the wall between the men and women's prayer space is moveable; clarification regarding the male access to the family washroom, which is connected to the women's foot washing station; whether there is an area for food preparation; whether this prayer space includes separate entrances for women and men; clarification surrounding how the separate prayer spaces for men and women was determined; whether noise from the multi-purpose rooms will impact the sanctity of the prayer space; clarification regarding storage space.

Mr Louie noted that the family washroom connected to the women's foot washing station will need to be amended to indicate that it is a female washroom only.

Motion: Hickey/Bajaj

THAT the GFC Facilities Development Committee approve, under delegated authority from General Faculties Council, the proposed Multi-faith Prayer and Meditation Space Design Development, as proposed by Planning and Project Delivery and as set forth in Attachment 2, as amended, as the basis for further engineering and development of contract documents.

CARRIED

DISCUSSION ITEMS

6. Devonian Botanic Garden Sector Plan

Materials before members are contained in the official meeting file.

Presenter(s): Ben Louie, University Architect; Lee Foote, Director, Devonian Botanic Garden; Stanford Blade, Dean, Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Sciences (ALES)

Purpose of the Proposal: This sector plan will establish management direction for resource stewardship, operations and development. The plan will safeguard the land base important natural and cultural features, and provide continued opportunities for managing future development opportunities in support of Devonian Botanic Garden (DBG) program. The plan will guide the management of the park for a 15-year period and establish the policy framework and management direction for DBG.

Discussion:

Dr Foote, during the introduction of this item, expressed his gratitude towards team members from the Office of the Vice-President (Facilities and Operations) as well as the Faculty of Agricultural, Life and Environmental Services (ALES).

He continued, utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, by providing members with the sector plan vision, including becoming an internationally recognized institution as well as linkage to research and scholarship at the University of Alberta. He noted that underlying principles for this plan include increased connectedness, providing year-round programming, planning transportation and the promotion of sustainability.

Dr Foote reported on the study areas within the Devonian Botanic Garden (DBG), as well as a summary of current programming, which is linked to the Academic Plan. He explained the current issues as well as opportunities inherent within this area. He explained that the manner in which the DBG manages the water, soil and plant life within and surrounding the property is exemplary.

Mr Louie reminded members that the upcoming Open House in relation to this item is one step within the development of the sector plan, noting that there is consideration towards leveraging input and consensus from the surrounding community around the DBG.

Mr Louie provided members with a brief outline of the timeline of this project.

During the discussion in regards to this item, members provided a number of comments and questions, including but not limited to: clarification surrounding the strategy surrounding vehicular traffic around the DBG; clarification surrounding issues with land acquisition; whether the presentation of the DBG's uniqueness at the Open House will be emphasized; clarification surrounding the natural and cultural layering plans for the DBG and how it will be presented to the public, specifically in reference to the architectural plans for the DBG; whether the proposed Visitor Centre at the DBG will come forward to this Committee; whether there are there any restrictions in relation to residential developments near the DBG.

Dean Blade thanked the presenters for their expertise and planning of this initiative.

The Acting Chair thanked presenters.

7. Projects Update from Facilities and Operations

There were no documents.

Presenter: Pat Jansen, Associate Vice-President, Planning and Project Delivery (Facilities and Operations)

Purpose of the Proposal: For information/discussion.

Discussion:

Mr Jansen provided members with a brief update in regards to several ongoing projects, referencing the following:

- Clinical Sciences Building (CSB): Floor by floor renewals and refresh are all on schedule.
- Physical Activity and Wellness (PAW) Centre: Work will commence on the Steadward portion in the near term including the renewal of several existing areas.

- St Joseph's College Women's Residence: Several areas of the project are in painting stage. This project is on schedule for occupancy in September, 2015.
- Infill Housing Project in the East Campus Village (ECV): East building structural framing to second floor, west building at the main floor level. Scheduled occupancy is anticipated for September, 2015.
- Students' Union Building (SUB): Exteriors are advancing per schedule, spring completion on target, interior areas near 100%.
- Peter Loughheed Hall (PLH): Construction start expected for mid-April, 2015.
- Innovation Centre for Engineering (ICE) and Chemical/Materials Engineering (CME) Building: Core and shell 97%, still several clean-up areas related to glazing. April targeted completion. Interior fit out portion is nearing completion, will be integrating the occupancy in a phased approach, May to July.
- South Campus 63 Avenue: There will be spring work on landscaping features and entrance signage
- Augustana: The exterior is near completion, retrofit on interiors is now underway.
- Twin Arena: In the Draft Concept Phase.
- Augustana Aboriginal Student Commons: Will commence construction in April - May.
- Foote Field Seasonal Dome: The Business Case has been presented.
- Islamic Garden: Concept Development Phase.
- Research Collection and Resource Facility: Next steps will be to issue an RFQ for the selection of the design and contractor proponents.
- Gathering Place: No further advancement from Schematic Design.
- Devonian ECO: No further advancement from Schematic Design.
- Dentistry/Pharmacy Building: No further advancement on major retrofit from Core and Shell Design Development.

8. Question Period

There were no questions.

INFORMATION REPORTS

9. Items Approved by the GFC Facilities Development Committee by E-Mail Ballots

There were no items.

10. Information Items Forwarded to Committee Members Between Meetings

There were no items.

CLOSING SESSION

11. Adjournment

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.