

Meeting Minutes
Campus Development Committee Meeting
September 24, 2015
210 Burruss - 10:30 am

I. Welcome and Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 10:35am

Present: Steve Mouras (“acting chair”), Jack Davis, Ted Faulkner, Ken Smith, Jennifer Hundley, Heinrich Schnoedt, Samer El-Kadi, Richard Rodrigues, Brandon Hurt

Absent: Jason Soileau, Chris Kiwus, Elizabeth Spiller, Brett Jones, Melissa Elliott

Guest: Michelle Ramsey

II. Committee Charge – reviewed charge

III. Construction Update

Steve Mouras presented the committee with information on the construction updates. The following projects were addressed

A. Complete Projects

- Football Practice Facility
- Marching Virginians
- Practice Fields – there was brief discussion about the artificial turf being so “grass like”
- McBryde 100 Classroom
- Perry Street Relocation – brief discussion about the integration of Perry Street, the new Western Perimeter Road, Duck Pond Drive and the Multi-Modal Transit Facility and its relation to the existing retention pond.
- East Eggleston Residential Conversion – comments about the effect of the conversion of East Eggleston on the School of Education (former tenants of building). Ken Smith indicated the major complaint was timing and overall disruption of the program. The offices have been resituated in the CRC, the facilities are better. There was concern about the program participants getting to campus, and the response (from Ken Smith) was that some work is being done in the CRC and some classes are still held in War Memorial and participants are splitting their time between both, however it seems to be working well.

B. Projects In Construction

- Upper Quad – Question from Ted Faulkner about the schedule for completion of the upper quad. Steve Mouras discussed that yes, although Pearson is delayed, the other building on the upper quad is currently on schedule.
- New Classroom Building – Question from Samer El-Kadi about the need for additional classroom space around campus, with the concern that professors are often walking across campus to teach a class in one building, and then walking to another. Ken Smith addressed this question by mentioning that the new classroom building and an instructional lab building to follow, should address some of these issues. These facilities will also allow existing classrooms to be renovated and better fit department needs. Current facility improvements are working on keeping faculty engaged (team effort) in the process of designing/renovating spaces to allow for department needs to be met. Steve Mouras also mentioned that Virginia Tech is accountable to Richmond

and classroom spaces are considered state property to be fully utilized therefore classrooms are often assigned based on class size and classroom size, to fill every space efficiently.

- 460 Interchange – Jack Davis inquired if the current Southgate Drive was to be removed, and when the project is to finish. Steve Mouras answered by explaining there will be no asphalt, but a gravel road may remain at the entrance with a discreet gate, but ideally the area would return to original grade if there are sufficient funds. Project is expected to finish Late 2018, with part of the road opening Nov 2017. Ken Smith asked if the project is 100% VDOT funded, the answer was yes.
- Cheatham Quad – short discussion about what is left to complete project.
- Drillfield Drive Improvements – Richard Rodrigues raised the question about how many parking spaces were lost. Steve Mouras answered with 9 total net spaces including the additional spaces gained with the mall parking upgrades. Jack Davis asked about any plans for development in the median of Alumni mall. The area is currently being used as a staging area for construction in the upper quad, however developing the median of Alumni mall area can be discussed at a later date by Jason Soileau.
- Torgersen Bridge – Discussion began with whether any stones had actually fallen. Steve Mouras said he was not aware of any. The visual impact of the efflorescence was detrimental to such an iconic piece of campus. Questions were then raised by Samer El-Kadi about whether it was common to have leaching from new stones (example VBI). Steve Mouras and Jack Davis addressed the technical aspect of the leaching with the causing being poor flashing, moisture getting into the wall cavity and incorrect mortar. The university investigated this problem a number of years ago and has adopted an appropriate remedy.

IV. Pending Master Plan Updates

- A. Campus Master Plan – VT has selected an A&E firm, Sasaki, to develop the plan.
- B. Parking and Transportation Master Plan – Jack Davis brought up question about whether bike storage will be provided at the MMTF to handle the increased transit use, and need to get to other places on campus from central location. Steve Mouras mentioned it was originally part of the scope, but would check to see if it was still part of the MMTF. Further investigate indicates it is no longer in the project.
- C. Northwest Community Introduction (More detail at October meeting)

V. Drillfield Paths

- A. Presentation – An in-depth presentation previously presented to the Board of Visitors in August. The presentation prompted a suggestion from Ken Smith to move lighting to ground level to provide a positive visual impact on the wide open space.

VI. University Space Committee Introduction (More information at October meeting)

VII. Future Meetings

- A. Tours – Suggested Tours included:
 - Tour of the Upper Quad right before student move in.
 - New Classroom Building (perhaps in the spring when it is further along).
 - New Football Practice Facility.
- B. Agenda Topics – none were mentioned

VIII. General Discussion – None.

IX. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 11:31 am