

Campus Development Committee Meeting

September 18, 2014

325 Burruss Hall

10:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Jason Soileau
Chris Wise
Chris Kiwus
Ken Smith
Steve Mouras
Melissa Elliott

Richard Rodrigues
Brett Jones
Monena Hall
Elizabeth Spiller

Others Present

Lori Sharp

Administrative:

- Chair called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.
- Revisited Campus Development Committee Charge
- Introductions
- Chair expressed one of the main goals of the committee is to be engaging. Extended himself on questions and is available for other visits or presenting presentations as well as offered tours.

Construction Update:

- Signature Engineering Building- Completed in spring of 2014 and now named Goodwin Hall.
- Indoor Athletic Practice Facility- On schedule for completion in summer 2015. The project is constructing a facility to increase the availability of Indoor training time for the football program.
- Marching Virginians- Construction to start in fall of 2014, and completion by summer 2015. The project as a phase one implementation to accommodate the practice facility needs of the Marching Virginians. This phase envisions three components: a facility, a covered open air pavilion, and an artificial turf field. The facility would provide the Marching Virginians with a building that will include restrooms, lockers, an instrument storage room, and a drum line room with storage for percussion instruments. In addition to a shelter for the Marching Virginians during inclement weather. The open air pavilion will be able to accommodate 350 musicians. The artificial turf field will accommodate a lighted, soccer-size field, including sidelines and permanent striping.
- Upper Quad- The replacement buildings' footprints will approximately match the existing Rasche and Brodie halls, located at the south end of the Upper Quad, overlooking Alumni Mall. Currently behind schedule, UDC is working closely with contractors to meet timetable.
- McBryde 100- The intent of these renovations is to return the space to a state-of-the-art large auditorium learning environment for the benefit of undergraduate education. Provided the design process starts summer 2015, the space is projected to be ready for fall 2015 classes.
- New Classroom Building- Construction to start fall 2014 but still under review and will follow up by next meeting. Anticipated 18 month construction period with possible occupancy taken place around July 2016. General questions on estimated time frames.

Overview of projects presented to the Board of Visitors on September 18, 2014:

- Design Preview/Review for South Recreation Field Surface Replacement- This project will replace existing natural grass fields with artificial turf. This will allow greater flexibility and use in fields programming. A general question of the location field; which is located off of Tech Center Drive. The real driver of this project is the Virginia Tech/Montgomery Executive Airport located on Research Center Drive. Discussions on the advantages of replacing the natural grass with artificial turf are more economical and easier to maintain (plug and play year round). Ken Smith and Chris Wise added some additional comments; the percentage of VT students participating in intramural sports has increased. Dean Spiller asked about the duration of the turf and the temperature of the new artificial fields. The turf's life span is said to last approximately 8-10 years and will be a fraction of the cost to replace, which is also planned in the budget. The turf will be a little warmer in temperature compared to natural grass but very manageable with our seasonal VA weather. Chris Wise of Student Affairs/Rec Sports brought up a positive note that by hosting outside camps and other sports interests this will generate more revenue. Also Rec Sports is adding additional activities; such as cricket, cross-cycle classes, conditioning ropes and a 5K course with lights to create a holistic approach.
- ❖ Request for Chris Wise to give a future presentation to the committee on Recreation.
- Design Preview for Multi-Modal Transit Facility (MMTF) - Bus Hub will be relocated in front of the Perry St. Parking Garage located along Perry Street. There will be canopies located around the West and East bus loops for Pick Up / Drop Offs. The MMTF will serve three key functions: A station centralizing transit transfers and serving multiple modes of alternative transportation; a satellite operations center with offices and training areas for Blacksburg Transit and Virginia Tech Office of Alternative Transportation; and a location to provide amenities for users of alternative transportation, as well as for public interface, i.e., integrating technology and mixed uses to promote Alternative Transportation.
- Stadium Woods Forest Management Plan- A graduate student is currently working for the next 2 years on his dissertation to develop a Management Plan for the long term maintenance & use of the woods. This will be a collaborative process.
- North Academic Campus Pedestrian Study- Steve Mouras provided an update on the current study to provide a smooth transition for Pedestrians from the North Academic campus to the main campus. This is high priority due to the Classroom Building, MMTF, and Signature Engineering Building. Concepts currently are being developed for public review.
- ❖ Request to have Debby Freed at future meeting to discuss Alternative Transportation initiatives.
- Grounds Enhancements summer 2014- Efforts are being made to create "Pocket Parks" on campus to improve and enhance seating opportunities to facilitate collaborative engagements. "Visual Nodes" are being enhanced with landscape to improve first impression at visitor spaces/corridors on campus.
- Bike Parking Master Plan- Transform under used spaces with bike racks, locations are key, and keeping with design standard.
- Campus Master Plan update- Initial scope being developed for 2016-2017.

Closing:

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:38a.m.
- The next Campus Development Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2014 from 10:30 –11:30a.m in 325 Burruss Hall.