Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the Council for the Built Environment
April 10, 2012, 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

I. Attendance
A. Voting members
   1. Present: N. K. Anand, Jose Bermudez, Pierce Cantrell, Thomas Mather, Valerian Miranda, Kevin Pollak (acting), Genyne Royal, Joe Weber. A quorum was present.
   2. Absent: Scott Bowen, Mladen Kezunovic
B. Ex-Officio members
   1. Present: Karan Watson, Rodney McClendon, Matt Fry, Kevin Hurley, James Massey, Tom Reber, David Woodcock, Deborah Wright
   2. Absent: B.J. Crain, Rod Weis
C. Non-voting members:
   1. Present: Bill Dugas, Thomas Harwell, Guido Kanschat, Janice Walpert
   2. Absent: Lawrence Rauchwerger, Jeff Seemann
D. Guests: Merna Jacobson, David Morrison, Marty Scholtz, Paul Sikes

II. The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair McClendon at 1:36 p.m.
A. Approval of Minutes
   1. The March 6, 2012 Minutes were unanimously approved.
   2. A revision of the February 14 Minutes was approved to correct a typo on the percentage of Math faculty that will vacate Milner Hall; corrected from 40% to 100%, as approved in the February meeting.
B. Announcement: CBE Administrative Support Change
   1. Jo Williams was recognized and thanked for her service to CBE
   2. Patti Urbina was welcomed as the replacement staff support

III. Facilities Inventory Process – James Massey and David Morrison
A. Handout Provided – Request to the CBE to endorse the “THECB General Procedures for Updating Facilities Inventory” process as outlined. (A companion manual, Facilities Inventory: Classification and Procedures Manual, is available on line at http://fcor.tamu.edu/space/documentation/FacilitiesInventory.2012.pdf )
B. THECB representatives will be on campus Wednesday, April 18 to walk through spaces and audit for consistency in room usage and reports.
C. Provost Watson stated the importance of respecting space reporting procedures and the value of the recordkeeping process through the THECB Facilities Inventory reporting process. She added that the level of information on these reports is necessary to maintain a reputation for wise space utilization. THECB looks at these reports and audit results in examining space and funding requests.
D. Recommendation was made for the wording in the procedures manual to indicate policy’s application to the use of non-academic spaces. Clarifying point was offered that the audit does not include agency space. Space shared with agencies is pro-rated based on usage.

E. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval with acceptance of above-stated considerations.

IV. Presentations by Sub-Councils

A. Band Rehearsal Facility and Practice Field – DRsc, TRsc, FURsc

1. DRsc: concerns expressed to have the location for the music facility/band hall construction be considered as part of larger Corps District Plan. Currently identified site deemed problematic for a number of reasons.
   a. Building not part of Campus Master Plan
   b. Topography grade changes in site are dramatic
   c. Protection of trees along George Bush
   d. Concerns for location at a “major gateway to campus”: a. aesthetics of building facing George Bush; b. effect of fencing and access to students to field for recreation purposes; aesthetics of artificial turf drill field
   e. Recommend a formal study to take into account the whole area of the Corps before making a decision on the Band Hall.

2. FURsc:
   a. Some concern with location.
      i. “Plain” architecture
      ii. Interaction with the neighborhood and noise level
      iii. Suggest consideration of revising location site, or rotating plan by 90 degrees
   b. Determined the request is valid and reasonable.

3. TRsc:
   a. Issue of utility connections; lines affected with any changes to site location; nothing that can’t be done; just concern to include this in consideration.
   b. Sub-Council Chair has found Band to be responsive to addressing questions and concerns.

4. Comments: Fry offered that President Loftin has safety concerns for overuse of the building. He is interested in seeing movement on this building request.

5. Following discussion CBE voted to approve the request to recommend building a band rehearsal/music facility and practice field in this general vicinity with the following qualifications: (a) Prior to final site being chosen, the CBE will approve the Corp District Plan (CDP) that includes this area. (b) Funding for construction has been raised.

6. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval with acceptance of above-stated considerations.
B. Art Collections Guidelines - DRsc
1. DRsc assigned duties previously under President’s Advisory Council on Art Policy (PACAP). Responsible to oversee acquisition and deaccessioning of objects of art. Procedures have been long standing.
2. Three members of the DRsc are former PACAP members.
3. Handout – DRsc Art Collection Guidelines, modeled after PACAP, offer in their statement of purpose to “ensure minimal standards in the display care and collection of permanent artwork maintained or owned by Texas A&M University.”
4. This is for permanent art (does not include temporary displays of art).
5. Have requested addition of two members with art expertise be added: Cathy Hastedt, Director of University Art Exhibits; a faculty member with a background in Art or Art History (to be identified).
6. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval of the DRsc’s Art Collection Guidelines as submitted.

C. Policy on Content of Wording Displayed on the Texas A&M Campus, “TAMU Campus Plaque Policy” – DRsc
1. Handout: policy on wording has been reviewed and approved by the Office of the General Counsel.
2. Policy covers plaques in a major focus location (not those displayed in offices and departments). Wording of policy needs to be revised to reflect this distinction.
3. Recommendation to research phrasing and revise (if appropriate): “The quoted passage should not advance a doctrine unique to any particular religious tradition. It should state a proposition that all religious traditions, including no religions tradition, can recognize as true.”
4. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval of the policy on the content of wording displayed on campus plaques, as revised and stated above.

D. Vet Med Riverside Campus Pasture Use – DRsc, FURsc
1. DRsc
   a. Long-term Civil Engineering research project located within the 75-acre pasture area will be avoided.
   b. No other objections; DRsc recommends approval with the above consideration.
2. FURsc
   a. Adjust boundaries to accommodate current users of land, Mechanical [Civil] Engineering research project.
   b. Deep surface penetrations for building foundations or other structures to occur on the site without consultation with the appropriate University expertise.
   c. FURsc recommends approval with the above consideration.
   d. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval for the Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences’ Campus Pasture Use request with the above-stated conditions.
E. Vet Med Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center – DRsc, TRsc, FURsc
   1. DRsc:
      a. Request photographs be taken of the buildings that are to be demolished to preserve for
         the historical record.
      b. Recommend approval.
   2. FURsc:
      a. Space need is valid; site is within Vet School’s bounds.
      b. Recommend approval.
   3. TRsc:
      a. Beautiful design.
      b. Asbestos handling will need to be done for buildings that are being demolished.
      c. Parking lot for staff will need to be coordinated with Transportation.
      d. Recommend approval of request to move forward.
   4. Motion passed unanimously to request the President’s approval of the relocation of the
      Schubot Exotic Bird Health Center.

V. Previously discussed items pending with Sub-Councils
   A. Co-Chair McClendon reviewed agenda item V, “List of items approved today that have been
      sent to the Co-Chairs since the March meeting.”

VI. CBE Recommended Projects Sent to President for Approval
   A. Co-Chair McClendon requested Sub-Council Chairs to review and provide Patti Urbina any
      status update on these items. Some have been on the list for some time. Advise if any of
      these items need to be retired.
   B. Goal is to update or delete pending items.

VII. Vacated Space - Dulie Bell Building
     A. Awaiting approval of the Transition Building Plan.
     B. Transition Building Plan delayed last month; should be moving forward soon.

VIII. Vacated Space - Blocker
      A. Approved by President on 4/4/12.
      B. Memo to appropriate Vice President and Sub-Council Chairs forthcoming.

IX. Miscellaneous – No items

X. Meeting adjourned at 2: 26.

Next Meeting: May 8, 2012 - 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. - 410 Rudder Tower