Minutes of the Monthly Meeting of the
Council for the Built Environment
June 10, 2014

I. Attendance

A. Voting Members
   2. Absent: Glen Laine, José Bermúdez, Paul Harding, Tom Swanner, Matthew Keller

B. Non-voting Members
   1. Present: David Lunt
   2. Absent: Pierce Cantrell, Emil Straub, Elizabeth Tebeaux, Erin Simmons, Brandon Valenta

C. Ex-officio Members
   2. Absent: Ralph Davila
   3. Guests: Shelly Janac, Richard Gentry (for Bob Casagrande)

*office/organization representation for the Vice Presidents, Agencies, CPI, USC, GSC and SGA have voting and non-voting members; in meetings where the voting member is absent, the non-voting member assumes voting status.

II. Call to Order: Co-Chair Crain

A. Co-Chair Crain called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.
B. The February minutes were unanimously approved as drafted.

III. Updates and Announcements

A. Lamar Street Greenhouses

   The Dwight Look College of Engineering is acquiring the subject space from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and the College of Science in exchange for cash. The trade is expected to be completed by July 1, 2014. In order to accommodate the Zachry renovation/expansion, the subject space will be renovated. The renovated greenhouse spaces will accommodate the entire Engineering Academic and Student Affairs; space for freshman engineering faculty and staff; Engineering Outreach; and eight large classrooms to teach engineering courses (ENGR 111/112, ENDG 105, ENDG 407, ENDG 408, and ENDG 409). The composition of the proposed eight large classrooms includes six 100-person classrooms and two 50-person classrooms.
Dr. Watson reminded CBE that if spaces were to be reassigned within units, it does not need to go through the CBE process. CBE should be informed, however, so that the trade can be announced and the Office of Facilities Coordination can update their databases should there be an audit.

B. OPAS Request for Sculpture Outside Rudder Complex

The CBE first reviewed the proposed sculpture at its March 2013 meeting. Formally, the CBE tabled the motion in hopes for a better process. The members of the CBE, especially the students and deans, believed that proposals for art should be solicited for important sites such as what was being proposed for this sculpture. In addition, the design group had some concerns for the actual proposed sculpture. The President then asked the CBE to reconsider what specifically needs to happen for this sculpture to be approved by the CBE. At its July 9, 2013 meeting, the CBE met to discuss a request from MSC OPAS to place a sculpture on the exterior grounds of the Rudder Complex. This was the second time the CBE considered this opportunity. Due to the fact that the Rudder/MSC complex is used for a multitude of University events, not just OPAS, the request was narrowly and conditionally approved and forwarded to the previous President with the recommendation that the proposal only be approved if noted caveats were met.

Per the President’s memo dated October 22, 2013, approval of the request was provided contingent on noted caveats being met. After receiving all the requested information per the noted caveats, the DRsc re-reviewed this item on May 28, 2014.

Caveats

- The sculptor considers rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. If the sculptor refuses to consider this request, he must provide, in writing, to the CBE the reasoning for his refusal.
  - The DRsc reviewed the explanation provided in writing and maintains its position on rotating the grouping of sculptures 90 degrees. Please note that the rotation of the sculptures is a nonstarter for the artist. He strongly feels the 90 degree rotation will diminish the story of the piece.
- The sculptor considers upsizing the conductor proportionately as the rest of the figures, not just an elongation of the arms and legs. An image of the proportional upsizing must be provided to the Design Review sub-council (DRsc) for consideration, so that they may ensure that there are no diversity/gender inequities reinforced within the sculpture.
  - Per the dimensioned drawing provided, it appears all the figures have been proportionately upsized 1.25%. The DRsc has found this acceptable and no further action is required.
- Details regarding the lighting plan are submitted to the DRsc for Review.
  - The DRsc found the lighting plan acceptable as presented with the recommendation that some additional distance be provided between the proposed lights and the ballerina.
- Details regarding the plaque size and exact location are submitted to the DRsc for review to ensure compliance with the Texas A&M Plaque Policy.
  - The DRsc recommends approval for only one plaque not two as requested. The recommendation is for the plaque to be located on the back side of the platform base for the conductor with a dimension of no greater than 24”x28”.

Since the artist has refused to consider the request to rotate the sculpture 90 degrees, it is the opinion of the CBE that the caveats have not been met and voted unanimously to recommend the
President not approve the request from OPAS to place a sculpture on the exterior grounds of the Rudder Complex.

In addition, the CBE has charged the Design Review sub-council to develop a process for soliciting art investments around campus that ensures student input is gathered before any proposal is proposed to the CBE.

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President not approve OPAS’ Request for install a sculpture outside of Rudder Complex.

Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and Crain

IV. Presentations by Sub-Councils

A. Gates Children’s Center Playground Renovations

The Children's Center is currently in the schematic design phase of a renovation and update to the center playground. The expansion will include updates to the current design as well as the addition of a splash pad and will commence in phases, to allow for outdoor play opportunities for the children throughout the renovation. (Please refer to Gates Children’s Center Playground Renovations request memo for full project details).

Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc)
The DRsc recommends approval of the design and plans for renovations to the Becky Gates Children’s Center playground area, with the following comments:

- Access to existing utilities, including irrigation controls and hose bibs, should be maintained and secured.
- Ensure that plans are reviewed by a registered accessibility specialist and that they comply with the playground guidelines published by the Consumer Product Safety Commission.
- Color of replacement shade structures should be consistent with existing.

Facilities Utilization Review Sub-Council (FURsc)
The FURsc recommends that the CBE support the request the Children’s Center to renovate and update the playground at the Center. The addition and renovation of the exterior spaces to include a new splash pad to allow for outdoor recreation and teaching opportunities is justified.

Technical Review Sub-Council (TRsc)
The Technical Review Sub-council supports the proposed renovation] and recommends approval, provided the following issues/concerns are addressed and funded.

Utility and Energy Services
The project and design team will need to follow the TAMU policy on digging on campus-prior to any excavation- https://utilities.tamu.edu/digging-campus/

The relocation I modification of any TAMU UES systems will need to follow the TAMU UES design standards- https://utilities.tamu.edu/design-standards/
If the splash pad will be served by a separate DCW feed, metering will be required as called out in the TAMU UES design standards. A new backflow preventer will need to be installed regardless of water source placement and type will need to be reviewed by UES.

Addition of lighting or any other UES systems will also need to follow the TAMU UES design standards and be reviewed by TAMU UES prior to construction.

Facilities Services
The design team needs to ensure that the project does not increase the rate of storm runoff into local creeks.

The project team should coordinate with Grounds Management for landscaping and irrigation concerns.

The project team should ensure that the facility is designed to minimize, as much as practical, the effort needed for future maintenance. It is preferred that items requiring maintenance be easy to service, be easily accessible from ground or floor level, have generous clearances and be easy to isolate from energy sources with minimal impact to the rest of the facility.

Environmental Health and Safety
If the water used in the proposed children's splash zone is to be recycled for any use, EHS must be included in discussions to insure that the water is sanitized appropriately for its possible reuses.

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval, with noted caveats, the request from the Division of Student Affairs to the Becky Gates Children’s Center playground area.

Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and Crain

B. Traversability Proving Ground Facility at Riverside

The Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) has been awarded funding by the National Cooperative Highway Research Program, and the Department of State to construct a Traversability Proving Ground Facility at Riverside Campus for testing purposes. In coordination with Riverside Campus users and Texas A&M’s Office of Facilities Coordination, TTI has selected an area between 35R Section 2 and Apron 2 for this project. Construction of this facility will provide for current and future research as well as instructional opportunities. The attached document details the project and construction plans. Construction needs to begin in May in order for pilot testing to start in July of this year.

Facilities Utilization Review Sub-Council (FURsc)
The FURsc recommends that the CBE support the request by the Texas A&M Transportation Institute (TTI) to construct the Traversability Proving Ground Facility at the Riverside Campus which will provide a unique site at which vehicle performance can be evaluated on sloped terrains.
through full-scale crash testing. The FURsc believes the land use for the proposed Traversability Proving Ground Facility is justifiable and is consistent with the recently approved Riverside Campus Master plan. It is recommended that the CBE support the project as proposed. It is further recommended that, as with other similar uses that TTI maintain the facility until the current research project remains active or the Traversability Proving Ground remains a viable facility to the Agency for future research. At which time the facility is no longer viable or active, TTI will consult with TAMU Facilities Coordination to discuss returning the area to its current condition. This has been discussed and TTI agrees to this term. It is expected that the operation of this facility will be subject to the runway scheduling procedures overseen by the Office of Facilities Coordination.

Technical Review Sub Council (TRsc)
The TRSC does not foresee any infrastructure or service-related challenges and thus, fully supports, the aforementioned projects as presented. Prior to any digging, utility locates should be requested as per university protocol.

Facilities Services:
The project team should coordinate with Grounds Management for landscaping and irrigation concerns.

Environmental Health & Safety:
Depending upon the size (area) of the construction site, environmental permitting may be required. Early coordination with TAMU EHS (Mr. Jeff Truss, Manager for Environmental and Hazardous Waste Management) is important to ensure that environmental permitting requirements do not unnecessarily delay the project.

The project and design team will need to follow the TAMU policy on digging on campus- prior to any excavation - [https://utilities.tamu.edu/digging-campus/](https://utilities.tamu.edu/digging-campus/)

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval, with noted caveats, the request from TTI to construct a Traversability Proving Ground Facility at Riverside Campus.

Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and Crain

C. Good Laboratory Practices Building Addition

Texas Engineering Experiment Station is requesting to construct an addition to the Good Lab Practices (GLP) Building (building #8525) at the Riverside Campus. The proposed expansion to the Good Lab Practices Building is to provide space for functions of the Food Protein Research and Development Center and to replace their previous space in Cater-Mattil Hall (building #1503). Included in the expansion is a new 280 square foot boiler room, 2,550 square foot dry/wet plant space configured to handle all of the previous Cater-Mattil pilot plant equipment, 3,765 square feet of additional lab, conference, and office space, restrooms and 5,075 square feet of outdoor covered storage space. The plans are drawn so that the dry/wet plant space, boiler room and outdoor storage will be constructed within the Base Bid and the remainder of the space will remain an unfinished shell. The estimated sum of additional construction is 6,315 assignable
square feet. The Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station will cover the cost of the proposed construction.

Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc)
The DRsc recommends approval of the request for the addition to the Good Laboratories Practice Building as proposed, with the following caveats:
- Existing trees that are impacted by the new building be relocated within the project site.
- If budget allows, consider further enhancement of landscape areas.

Facilities Utilization Review Sub-Council (FURsc)
The FURsc recommends that the CBE support the request by the Engineering Program to construct an addition to the Good Lab Practices (GLP) Building (#8525) at the Riverside Campus.

Technical Review Sub-Council (TRsc)
The TRsc supports the proposed additions to the Good Lab Practices Building and recommends approval, provided the following issues/concerns are addressed and funded.

Telecommunications:
Telecommunications does not foresee any infrastructure or service-related challenges and thus, fully supports, the aforementioned project as presented. Prior to any digging, utility locates should be requested as per university protocol.

Facilities Services:
The design team needs to ensure that the project does not increase the rate of storm runoff into local creeks.

The project team should coordinate with Grounds Management for landscaping and irrigation concerns.

The project team should ensure that the facility is designed to minimize, as much as practical, the effort needed for future maintenance. It is preferred that items requiring maintenance be easy to service, be easily accessible from ground or floor level, have generous clearances and be easy to isolate from energy sources with minimal impact to the rest of the facility. Elevated items requiring maintenance that are difficult to service by ladder or lift should have permanent maintenance access platforms with permanent stairs or ladders, built-in fall prevention, and davits for hoisting parts and tools.

Utility & Energy Services:
TAMU UES personnel have reviewed the proposed locations and have not identified any other utility conflicts, than the existing natural gas service.

The project and design team will need to follow the TAMU policy on digging on campus- prior to any excavation - https://utilities.tamu.edu/digging-campus/.

The relocation I modification of any TAMU UES systems will need to follow the TAMU UES design standards - https://utilities.tamu.edu/design-standards/.
EHS and SASE
In accordance with university standards, all new buildings and major renovations must include a fire sprinkler system.

SSC/subcontractor should consult with EHS Environmental Management group (Jeff Truss) early in the project to ensure environmental compliance on the project.

In the event that the building occupants opt to perform any portion of the project outside of SSC oversight, occupants must be aware that any disturbance of walls, ceilings or flooring may only be accomplished after the affected building materials are tested for asbestos. If appropriate, contact TAMU EHS for assistance.

CIS:
The fiber data link to the building may need to be upgraded given the amount of work being moved there.

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval, with noted caveats, the request from the Engineering Experiment Station to build an addition to the Good Laboratory Practices Building at Riverside.

Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and Crain

D. Plaques – G. Rollie, Read, Netum Steed

The Texas A&M Athletic Department is requesting plaques to memorialize the A&M buildings of G. Rollie White Coliseum, Read Building, and Netum Steed Laboratory. These buildings have been removed as part of the Kyle Field Expansion Project.

Design Review Sub-Council (DRsc)
The DRsc reviewed the project request per the expedited processes established by the sub-council. The DRsc recommends approval as proposed.

Action/Recommendation: The CBE voted unanimously to recommend the President’s approval for plaques to memorialize the buildings of G. Rollie White Coliseum, Read Building and Netum Steed Laboratory.

Responsible Parties: Co-Chairs Watson and Crain

V. Miscellaneous

A. Electronic Voting

Dr. Watson discussed implementing electronic voting for future CBE requests. Whereas electronic voting has been utilized previously when quorum was not met; and whereas some requests do not require intensive discussion and the Review Sub-Councils reports are
comprehensive, it was agreed upon to send the request and all recommendations to the CBE members for review, once all recommendations have been received from the sub-councils. If all voting members vote to recommend approval, as written (with noted caveats), then the request will be forwarded to the President for his approval/non-approval. All actions shall be documented in the next meeting minutes as approved by electronic vote. However, if any members (voting or non-voting) feel the request warrants further intensive discussion, the request shall be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

The CBE has agreed to adopt this process for future requests submitted to the CBE.

VI. Meeting adjourned 2:10 p.m.