Facilities Planning Committee Meeting Notes  
January 9, 2013

Committee Members:  Alternates:
✓ Anderson, Karen
✓ Curran, Andrew
✓ Hood, Brandi
✓ Meerts, John
☒ Meislahn, Nancy ✓ Norris, Kathleen
✓ Mukerji, Ishita
☒ Peters, Nathan ✓ Nye, Valerie
☒ Rosenthal, Rob
✓ Salas, Charles
✓ Shaw, Gary
✓ Siry, Joseph ✓ Huge, Elijah
☒ Tanaka, Andrew
✓ Topshe, Joyce
✓ Whaley, Michael
☒ Wilson, Barbara-Jan ✓ Kaspro, Karen

1. Approved Notes from December 2012 meeting

Overview of the capital budgeting process and history was provided by Valerie Nye. The Capital Budget has historically increased by 2% annually until Fiscal 2010, when it was cut by $200,000 and has not increased since. The annual capital budget is $2,184,600. Each year, based on historical practice as well as other pertinent agreements, a portion of the capital budget is allocated to various places for further review. For example, each year Academic Affairs is allocated $125,000 for their computing needs. Academic Affairs has a very specific needs and request process for this portion of the capital budget that is separate and distinct from other allocations.

Once the initial allocations are made, the remaining is considered unallocated. Requests generally initiate through the Facilities Planning Committee and are formally taken to John and Nate for approval. Approval is given with a sensitivity to preserving capital to meet the commitment to science that was made when the building project was cancelled. Examples of capital funded projects include Exley Late Night Study Space, Charging Stations for Phones, Bennet Hall Res Life office, Emergency Power for Card Access systems, Relocations of GLSP and Butterfield Offices. Some projects are split funded. For example, the $2 million/year investment into renovating the science facilities is being funded from multiple sources including capital and major maintenance. Academic Affairs also has a non-computing capital account for furniture, vehicles, athletics equipment.

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3. Bed Planning – This spring 126 Pearl Street will be brought back on line to accommodate 19 undergraduate beds due to an overflow situation. The building had been taken off line in summer 2012 in anticipation of a sale. An updated report was shared.

4. House Sales - To date 50 houses have been sold through the APP. Currently, 4 Wesleyan houses are on the market: 15 and 16 Brainerd and 11 and 40 Fairview. Both of the open houses in December 2012 have yielded offers from faculty and staff. January 16th is the final date to submit an offer in the APP.

5. Meeting Schedules for 2013 will change to reflect the availability of the members. Monthly meetings will move to the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 11am except for May which will be a Thursday at 4pm. New meeting proposals will be sent.

6. Rental Housing is a benefit offered to new and relocating faculty and staff at the time of appointment. Due to unusually low mortgage rates, there are several large homes on Mount Vernon that remain vacant. The current policy requires that permanent housing be found within 3 years of receiving tenure or 2 years of the original rental date for others. Revisions to the policy might increase occupancy in the short term. Subletting to visitors and other eligible faculty and staff is permitted if approved in writing. However, subletting to undergraduate or graduate students is not permitted.

The next meeting is February 12 at 11am and will involve a tour of the vacant houses on Mount Vernon. Committee members should meet at 116 Mount Vernon. Please dress appropriately as we will be walking from house to house.