

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER
BOULDER CAMPUS PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes of the Meeting of May 12, 2005

The Boulder Campus Planning Commission met on Thursday, May 12, 2005, in the Chancellor's Conference Room, Regent 302.

Members present were: Barbara Bintliff, Deb Coffin, Noel Cummings, Jeff Lipton, Lisa Lucio, Mary Ann Myer, Robin Newsome-Suitts, Joyce Nielsen, Phil Simpson, Steve Thweatt, and William Arndt.

Members absent were: Maren Additon, Bill Deno, Jud Hurd, Steve Jones, Bill Kaempfer, Terry Kleeman, Tate McMillin, Jana Milford, Carina Molnar, Kathy Rowlen, Garrett Stanton, Suzanne Tegen, and Richard Wobbekind,

Guests present were: Diane Belz, Student Recreation Center; Joe Bilotta, JBA, Inc.; David Bodnar, Information Technology Services; Gary Chadwick, Recreation Services; Jim Freie, Musco Lighting; Pam Greager, Parking and Transportation Services; Rob Layton, Design Concepts Landscape Architects; David Lindblad, Information Technology Services; John Meyer, Student Recreation Center; David Moss, Musco Lighting; Nan Lu, Student Recreation Center; Scott Seaman, University Libraries; James Williams, University Libraries; and Matt Williams, *Colorado Daily*.

Vice Chair Coffin presided, in the absence of William Kaempfer. As there was not a quorum of voting members, it was decided that all motions would be recorded as a consensus of the group.

1. **MINUTES** -- On a motion by Lucio, seconded by Nielsen, the minutes of the meeting of March 10, 2005, were approved. There was no meeting in April.
2. **CHAIR'S REPORT** -- Coffin reported that the Chancellor's Executive Committee (CEC) had approved the FY 2006-2007 Capital Construction Prioritization List which had been approved by the BCPC at their March meeting.
3. **NORLIN LIBRARY RENAISSANCE PLAN FEASIBILITY STUDY** -- Simpson explained that approval of this document at the meeting -- and by the CEC later -- would allow the project to move into the program planning stage. He introduced Dean Williams, who gave a brief overview of the goals of the project. Williams noted that this study addressed how library users work, which is considerably different than when Norlin was last remodeled. The project would be in five phases, and would address major deficiencies. The first phase would be a joint effort between the library system and Information Technology Services. The study looked at use patterns in the computer labs in Norlin versus computer labs elsewhere. The data reveals that the two labs in Norlin are popular and are used for classroom assignments. Graduate students have different needs than undergrads, which need more "people spaces."

Joe Bilotta, one of the planning consultants, noted that parts of Norlin are 65 years old. This plan would help the building meet current trends in libraries. At 350,000 sq. ft., Norlin is a huge building; books are kept in spaces with good natural light, and people are delegated to windowless rooms. A "Student Commons" is envisioned with "one-stop services" to users. More material would be moved to the Preservation and Access Service

Center for Colorado Academic Libraries (PASCAL) at Fitzsimons. Part of Norlin would be open 24 hours.

The budget for Phase 1 is estimated at \$4,125,000. Twenty-five percent of this is already in place. Construction could begin in 2007. It might take 14 months longer.

Myer asked if there was more undergraduate use at exam times. Williams said that was only an example of the demand on Norlin. He said that students are in the computer labs all the time.

It was moved by Lipton, seconded by Bintliff, to approve the feasibility study with clarification that this approval was only for the first phase (the Student Information Commons). The motion was approved by consensus.

- 4. PROGRAM PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT OF OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES** -- Simpson noted that his project was first presented to the BCPC two years ago. At that time, the feasibility study included projects at CU-Boulder South. The students voted in favor of the project, but only 23% of eligible students voted, so the UCSU Legislative Council asked that the project be phased. This program plan, therefore, addresses main campus only, and does not include a tennis bubble. The project cost is now estimated at \$5.7 million.

There has been a shortage of outdoor recreation fields for several years. As the use of the existing fields increases, maintenance has become a problem. Some areas may be unsafe. Also, the aesthetics have suffered. Safe, attractive, facilities have an impact on student recruitment and retention. Facilities at CU-Boulder do not compare favorably with other Big XII institutions.

The biggest demand is for multi-purpose fields. This project will increase capacity, add new facilities, and decrease the maintenance impact. Synthetic surfaces will be used on some fields.

Simpson said that the current plan will renovate Franklin, Farrand, and Kittredge Fields, and will construct new basketball courts east of the Coors Events Center. On Franklin Field, improvements will be made to the turf and the fencing. New lighting will make the facility available more hours of the day. Farrand Field was originally flood-irrigated and slopes. The turf is in bad condition and there is no formal edge to the area. A stage for performances could be included. Students have asked for a stone wall rather than the current chain link fence, and the Class of 2004 has given money to create an arched entrance.

East of Coors is a large area which is underutilized. The new basketball courts would have views to the east and southwest. They would be built so as to be unobtrusive from vehicles on 28th Street. Up to four courts could be built. This area would also be lighted. Kittredge Field also has poor turf and drainage problems. Synthetic turf and lighting would be added.

The total project cost is \$5,712,000. Students recently approved a fee increase of \$10.75 per semester, beginning in 2006 and continuing for 20 years.

Nielsen asked if artificial turf was used elsewhere on campus. Simpson said it was used on the football practice fields near Newton Court. The men's lacrosse team also uses the field. Consultant Rob Layton noted that the Boulder Valley School District uses this type of turf. It can get hot, but players tend to like it better than natural grass. Lipton commented that during times of drought, the artificial turf needs considerably less water.

Nielsen and Bintliff asked about the lighting. Simpson said it was a balancing act: the lower the poles the less light is needed, but the more off-site glare. Taller poles are easier to control, but need somewhat brighter lights. Thweatt said the lighting would be addressed more fully in the design phase. Chadwick said there were improvements in the technology. He said there would be an absolute curfew on the lights (10 p.m.). Lipton added that these lights would not be as bright as those at Folsom Field, which have to meet conditions for television broadcasts.

Bintliff asked about the proposed golf driving range. Simpson said that this had been one of the proposals for CU-Boulder South, , not included here. Lucio asked about softball; Simpson said that was another program which could be considered for the south property.

It was moved by Lipton, seconded by Myer, to approve the program plan with two conditions: (1) sensitivity to academic programs and living spaces should be considered in locating the staging area on Farrand Field, and (2) lighting infrastructure should be designed to minimize off-site visual impacts. The motion was approved by consensus. Coffin thanked Chadwick for involving the Residence Hall Council in this project.

- 5. TEMPORARY CLASSROOM BUILDINGS DURING BUSINESS BUILDING RENOVATION AND ADDITION** -- Thweatt said that the Leeds School of Business is anxious to start the project to renovate and add to the Business Building. If it is possible to begin the project in 2006, there may be a shortage of classrooms. The campus can absorb some but not all of the need. Off-campus and rental space were considered, but the recommended solution would be to erect temporary buildings on the existing parking lot southeast of the Business Building. This could happen January 2006 through summer of 2007 or May 2006 through 2007. Greager noted that conference rooms in Coors could be used as temporary classrooms. Willard could also be available for office space.

Thweatt showed drawings of the potential layout. The structures would be modular buildings with 16 to 50 seat classrooms of varying sizes. Lucio asked about damage to the parking lot underneath; Thweatt said it wouldn't matter because the parking lots will be removed and relocated as part of the project.

Thweatt reiterated that this would be necessary only if the Business project proceeds before the new Law Building is finished or if other space is not available. If it begins later, then Business would likely move temporarily into the vacated Fleming Building.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. Minutes submitted by William Arndt.