

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO AT BOULDER

BOULDER CAMPUS PLANNING COMMISSION

**Minutes of the Meeting of March 12, 1998**

The Boulder Campus Planning Commission met on Thursday, March 12, 1998, in the Chancellor's Conference Room, Regent 302.

Members present were: Jim Baily, Al Bartlett, John Bruning, Anne Costain, Noel Cummings, Adrian Del Caro, Bill Deno, Dennis Haney, Steve Jones, Stephen Lester, Michael Lightner, Wolf Lutton, Dale Oesterle, Susan Thorning, and Secretary William Arndt.

Members absent were: Shaun Dalrymple, Ben Goldmanis, Paul Saporito, and John Satory.

Guests present were: Enid Ablowitz, College of Engineering; Bob Barkley, Chemistry and Biochemistry; John Birks, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Mel Branch, College of Engineering; Steve Carr, MCD Biology; Lois Dahnke, Academic Scheduling; David Getches, Law School; Steve Hecht, Facilities Planning; Rob Kohrman, Central Administration; Robby Layton, Design Concepts; Kathy Rowlen, Chemistry and Biochemistry; Joe Roy, Police and Parking Services; Phil Simpson, Facilities Planning; and Kent Zimmerman, Alumni Association.

1. **MINUTES** -- It was moved by Haney, seconded by Bruning, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 12, 1998. Jones noted an error on page 2: the Chair of the City of Boulder Planning Board should be Beth *Pommer* (not Palmer). With this correction, the minutes were unanimously approved.
2. **CHAIR'S REPORT** -- Jones reported that the leading candidate for the position of Director of Facilities Management has withdrawn from consideration. Bruning will continue to be Interim Director and serve on the BCPC. The search committee is considering available options to fill the position.

Jones announced that Dennis Haney, a member of the BCPC since the early 1980s and current Vice-Chair, is leaving the University. The following resolution was proposed by Bartlett, seconded by Deno:

RESOLVED THAT the Boulder Campus Planning Commission expresses its great regret that Dennis Haney will be leaving the BCPC and the University. The BCPC wishes to convey to Dennis its gratitude and appreciation for his long and devoted service to the BCPC and to the University.

The resolution was unanimously approved. Haney expressed his thanks to the BCPC for its "patience" over the years and said that his work with the Commission was one of the best things about his years at the University.

Jones asked Lightner to re-convene the nominating committee to select a new Vice-Chair. Staff Council has already been asked to propose a new member to replace Haney.

Jones reported that SCAG met the previous Wednesday. They discussed the proposed capital construction request list and talked about the University's debt capacity. BCPC has been asked to prioritize this year's request including three projects for which a program plan has not yet been written. Jones said that SCAG understands that this may be difficult for the BCPC.

3. **CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FY 1999-2000: FIRST READING** -- Deno referred to the proposed list, which had been distributed to the BCPC. He noted that four projects for FY 1998-99 are likely to be funded, and the Engineering Health and Safety project is proposed to be moved to Controlled Maintenance. Kohrman announced that he had received word only the day before that an additional project -- the Ekeley East Wing Renovation -- is also likely to be funded for FY 1998-99. Kohrman noted that this left the current list rather short, and that other projects could be added.

Thorning noted that the narrative about the Technology, Arts, and Media Center (TAMC) project indicated that there would be research, but prior discussions had indicated that it would be limited to undergraduate instruction. Costain said that she would check with Bobby Schnabel, the project director, as to the amount of research involved in the proposal. Bartlett asked if the Science Library could be added to the request list. Deno said that a program plan had not been prepared. Deno said he would be meeting with Jim Williams, Dean of Libraries, to discuss the status of the proposed Science Library and how it might interface with the TAMC project. Thorning asked if it was possible to add steps 4 and 5 of the Porter project. She also asked about the Student Services project; Baily said that although an intent to do program planning had been presented to the BCPC, program planning had been put on hold.

Baily said that prioritizing new projects we haven't seen is difficult, because it is hard to understand the relative need. He noted that the Discovery Learning Center proposal is straightforward, as is the proposed new Law School. The TAMC project, however, still has "a lot of unknowns," several relating to the site, and others about the programs to be housed. Costain responded that many new ideas are being considered in the planning for this project. Some obsolete classrooms in Hellem's and Ketchum, for instance, may be de-commissioned and replaced in the new building. Lightner asked about the State-cash funding split. Deno said it would be about 60% State and 40% cash/private. Thorning noted that programs housed in TAMC could relieve space problems in Norlin.

David Getches from the Law School gave a brief overview of the Law School project, which is on the list for prioritization but for which the program plan has not been completed.

Bartlett moved, seconded by Haney, that the BCPC first prioritize projects which have a completed program plan, then projects which have a program plan pending. The order would be: Porter Renovation (Step 3 of 5), The Discovery Learning Center, the new Law School, and the Technology, Arts, and Media Center.

Baily suggested that because of this unique situation prioritization should wait until after the public hearing, to be held in April. Thorning asked if the situation with pending program plans could simply be addressed by footnotes on the prioritization list. Lightner said that with only four projects, the prioritization probably did not matter much. Thorning reminded the group that this was only the first reading and changes could be made later. Haney asked if the BCPC were setting the wrong precedent by considering projects before program plans were written. Jones responded that this situation should not be taken as a precedent, but was happening this year because of the positive funding climate at the State level.

Jones asked for a vote on Bartlett's motion, which was approved on a vote of 9 in favor, 4 against. Deno will prepare the second reading draft based on this. Lightner asked the process for adding projects; Deno said he could add projects for consideration at the second reading.

4. **SCHEDULE FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION HEARING AND APRIL BCPC MEETING** -- Jones said that a public hearing needed to be held before the second reading of the Capital Construction Request. In light of the tight time-frame with program plans being written, he suggested that the regular April meeting on the 9th be postponed, that a public hearing be held on Thursday, April 16, and the regular meeting be held on April 23. Members concurred.
5. **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE KOENIG ALUMNI CENTER GARDEN** -- Steve Hecht introduced Robby Layton of Design Concepts, landscape architects hired by Alumni to prepare a plan for the garden. Layton explained that the garden lawn suffered wear and tear last summer with multiple well-attended events, the introduction of a new graduate student coffee garden, and other activities. During warm weather, the Parent's Association has several functions using a tent, which is costly to put up and take down, and also stresses the plantscape. Furthermore, a utilities project has torn up the garden, so it is timely to make improvements when restoration from the utilities project occurs.

Layton said consideration is being given to making changes between the main structure and the Carriage House, which is now used as support space for catering. There is a gazebo in the southwest corner of the yard which is seldom used except for storage; it could be moved to a more attractive site. Other proposals are added hardscape, semi-permanent structures for tent support, changes to the fence, upgrades for disability access, and reconfiguration of entrances to the garden. In order to have the garden usable by May commencement, only part of the work will be done right away.



Thorning warned that any structure for tents needs to take into account Boulder's high winds. She also suggested that electrical outlets be provided in the tent support structures. Haney said he thought the conceptual plan showed too much hardscape. Layton said that some planting areas and moveable planters could be added. Lester asked that recycling areas and xeriscape planting be considered. Layton replied that water conservation was a primary concern. Bruning asked that the plan include lighting considerations.

It was moved by Baily, seconded by Bartlett, to approve the long and short-term plans with the stipulation that the plan include the following: rain protection, adequate electricity and tie-downs for tent structures, softening of the tent area with additional vegetation, and high priority to concerns of access for the disabled. The motion was approved with one vote against. Deno noted that this approved plan will next be presented to the Design Review Board.

6. **MASTER PLAN UPDATE** -- Baily reported that the task force reports had been presented the previous Monday. He distributed copies of the summary of the task force recommendations, including lists of those serving on the task forces. Bartlett noted that two of the reports mentioned "conference facilities," but that neither dealt with it in a substantive way. He also questioned the need for an 800-seat classroom. Thorning noted the opportunities on the East Campus, and asked if upgrading for Smart Classrooms could be placed on the Capital Construction list.

Bartlett moved, seconded by Thorning, that the BCPC hold one or more open special meetings in the near future to discuss among itself and with members of the academic community the planning implications of the recommendations of the Master Plan task forces whose reports were presented to the Chancellor on March 9, 1998. The motion was approved unanimously.

7. **OTHER ITEMS FROM MEMBERS** -- Lutton passed out schedules for the Earth Summit to be held April 20 and 21. BCPC members are invited to attend and to take part in the discussions.

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