UAF Master Planning Committee Meeting Agenda

Thursday, March 24, 2011, 2011; 9 – 11 a.m.
Chancellor’s Conference Room; Signers’ Hall Room 330

1) Welcome
2) Facilities Report
3) Naming Guidelines review
4) Proposed housing and dining plans – Scott Bell
5) Subcommittee Report: Campus Landscape and Outdoor Art
6) Subcommittee Report: North Campus
7) Public comment

Master Planning Committee Meeting
March 24, 2011
Notes

Attending: Randy Pitney, Gary Newman, Chuck Kuhns, Lydia Anderson, Scott McCrae, Doug Braddock, Da’ka’xeen Mehner, Deb Horner, Nicole Nordstrand, Rich Boone, Annette Chism

Guest: Scott Bell, Associate Vice Chancellor Facilities Services

Welcome and Introductions

Facilities Report
Jonathan and Deb met regarding architectural guidelines. Work continues on the draft.

Ground breaking ceremony for Life Sciences will be at 4P March 30.

North Tanana Loop will be used by construction vehicles and will be off limits to other vehicles.

Federal government is requiring LEED certification for construction of addition in Arctic Heath Research Building courtyard. Facilities is negotiating with the government to waive the requirement because it is just at the threshold cost level.
**Naming Guidelines Review**
Deb reviewed work on draft guidelines by the Naming Committee. The Chancellor wanted consistency with respect to the naming process.

Deb requested the comments be sent to Martin Klein (committee chair).

The committee has considered the value of a longevity-of-service wall, or some other means of recognition.

**Proposed Housing and Dining Plans – Scott Bell**
There have been efforts recently to re-vitalize dining and housing options on campus. There is a plan to build town houses through a Public Private partnership. The private developer would be responsible for maintenance and cleaning, etc. This type of partnership would be new to the UA system. Partnership would allow the building of housing without capital funds. Students would pay rent to the developer. A key issue is the quality of the building and the rent level. A consultant will be hired for scoping of the idea. The relationship with the developer would be long term (~20 yrs). The model for housing would be a townhouse. The goal is to make campus housing more attractive to upper division undergraduates and graduate students.

Suite style housing for lower division undergraduates, to be located on Copper Lane, will also be considered.

The timing of the populating of the new buildings (absorption rate of students back to campus) has to be considered.

Townhouses would be constructed on North Chandalar. It would be located in an area currently designated as Sports and Fields in the new Campus Master Plan. Deb noted that it would be good to retain as much of the viewshed and open area on the east side of Chandalar as possible.

Goal would be 900 beds, and net campus gain of 400-500 beds. That would mean the re-purposing or demolition of Moore and/or Bartlett perhaps.

There is a desire to move dining from Lola Tilly to the west side of Wood Center.
Lydia asked for clarification about the dining facility. Basic option would be a facility with a 7500 ft² footprint. Modular construction is a possibility. UAF would build the basement; developer would build the rest, perhaps as modular components. Additional two floors could be considered for use by conferences, student life, etc.

Scott noted that there has been discussion about the re-purposing of Lola Tilly if dining were to move to the planned new dining facility (west of Wood Center). It would be a possible location for the bookstore and a welcome center.

Rich asked about the planned dorm for Copper Lane. Possibilities are 220-280 beds. Suites and learning centers are possible. It would be constructed after the town houses and would also be a Private Public Partnership.

Rich asked MPC members to comment on the rationale for designating the North Chandalar area as Sports and Fields. Deb and Lydia replied that the rationale was the need to maintain open space on campus.

Rich asked how much of the space to the east of North Chandalar would be occupied by the planned town houses. Scott replied that a portion of the current open space would be occupied by the new townhouses.

Deb recommended retaining or allocating as much of the current open space as possible for Student Life reasons. She recommended that open space be an integral part of the design of the area.

Annette pointed out that children from Hess Village play in the open area. There is a need to maintain as much open space as possible and a potential conflict if the area is used for high density housing.

Chuck pointed out there is a need to connect the green space on campus. Deb and Nicole noted that connecting the green space is planned.

Facilities will be issuing an RFP to hire a consultant to scope out the project needs in anticipation of an RFP for construction.

Deb offered a motion (seconded by Gary):
Green/open space must be an integral part of the high-density housing design for the Chandalar area. Consideration of linkages to the campus green infrastructure is important as well as integration with the existing play area associated with Hess Village.

Motion passed 10-0.

Rich asked for an update on the planned CCHRC expansion. Jonathan will ask Jack Hebert to attend the next MPC meeting to provide information on the planned project.

Annette asked about the impact on the trail planned to connect with the cutoff on Thompson Drive. The impact isn’t clear depending on the footprint of the planned area and the location of the trail. Annette will provide information for the next MPC meeting. Deb understood that there may be a plan for sustainable housing by CCHRC; that should be part of the discussion for the next MPC meeting. Scott pointed out that students might be involved in helping to design a sustainable housing complex (~5 houses and 20 students).

Scott pointed out that there is a desire to change the access to the Harper Building, eliminating access to Geist Road and adding a connection to Fairbanks Street.

Subcommittee Report: Campus and Outdoor Art – nothing to report

Subcommittee Report: North Campus
Nicole reported that North Tanana Loop was bladed on Tuesday (March 22), making a loop of the Skarland Trail (that south of North Tanana Loop) unusable for skiing. Jason, the trail groomer, wasn’t aware of the blading. Jason installed a temporary trail alongside the road, along its north side.
In early April (7th or 8th) there will be a public comment on a potential re-route of that section of Skarland Trail.

John Underwood, a trails designer, will likely be contracted.

See www.uaf.edu/trails for the North Campus trails map.
Public Comment – none

Meeting adjourned at 11:00A.

Next regular meeting scheduled for Thursday, April 7, 2011.