

## Campus Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2022 3:00 PM

1898 Room – Student Union

The meeting was called to order at 3:06 PM and following introductions of members present, the first agenda item was addressed.

**Madison Hall Renovation** – Scott Hebert provided an overview of what could be expected on the renovation of Madison preparing the building for eventually being transformed into a lab only building. Funding has been secured for electrical and HVAC renovation, which is to be done in 3 phases however, raising the floor level at the front of the building and drawing the entrance further into the parking area is seen as 1) meeting ADA requirements for a level first floor; 2) providing a foyer that would have a multi-purpose / flex use and 3) require more money for development and documents.

The first phase of renovation is expected to begin in FA22 and continue through SU/FA 23. The building will be gutted and is expected to be fully operational by FA23/SP24. Cost estimates for this phase are projected to range from \$20 to \$25 million. The third phase of the renovation will be the renovation of the outbuilding.

Preliminary blueprints were used for clarity but are not available for inclusion in these notes.

**New Engineering Building** – Scott Hebert stated that funding was needed from the legislature in order to move into the design and development phase of this project. He estimates that the process would require 10 to 12 months in order to get the \$25 - \$30 million required for design and development and would require the selection of a site on campus for the new building. Next would be obtaining construction dollars which could take up to 15 months.

**Nursing Building** – Scott Hebert informed the committee of the numerous details regarding the St. Mary / St. Landry properties as to acreage and ownership as well as future development and use. The St. Mary property is approximately 5 acres with several permanent structures and is owned by the Diocese of Lafayette. In June, UL will be closing on the transfer of this specific property. Many of the tenants of the professional buildings are under contract through 2024 therefore, any renovations to these buildings will be postponed until that time. It is anticipated that these professional buildings will be used for classrooms, offices and labs for Nursing and Health Sciences eventually freeing Wharton Hall space for utilization by others. Dr. Savoie asked for confirmation that Wharton was the the largest building on campus. One suggestion is that the numerous and varied Student Support Services would occupy Wharton thereby freeing up the single use buildings around campus currently occupied by these organizations. Formerly there had been discussions about Biology expanding into Wharton.

Consideration will also be given for BIOL / CHEM courses that are required for Nursing and Health Sciences to be taught in the Nursing Building thus alleviating the need for students to traverse the campus for classes.

The adjacent 20 acres of property on St. Landry is owned by Our Lady of Lourdes and acquisition/closing on that property is expected in the coming week. This property had 2 parking garages (approximately

1500 spaces) and the anticipated use of these for athletic events is one of the many considerations in the acquisition. However, the most important projected development for the property is the construction of a regional simulation laboratory. It is expected to be the largest such lab between Birmingham and Houston and will be utilized beyond Nursing and Health Sciences for professional development by LSU Medical Schools and Oschner Hospital System.

Funding for the pre-development and design is required.

**Roy House Renovations** – Scott Hebert explained that since the building is on the National Register of Historic Places, attention to architectural detail is required for this renovation. The Roy House will serve as an historic gateway to our campus, there are several points of consideration required in meeting the ADA requirements including addressing the exterior ground level accessibility as well as ADA compliance with the first floor which is the space to be used by the public. The second floor requires only cleaning and painting for use by the Center for Louisiana Studies.

Work on the exterior of the house has been completed and has been made as historically accurate as possible.

Funding for these renovations have been obtained from both public and private dedications as well as grant funding.

**PART (Photovoltaic Applied Research and Testing) Lab Building** – Scott Hebert provided an update on the construction of the lab. The foundation has been poured and framing is expected to begin the first week of May with the lab fully operational and ready for use by FA22. There was brief discussion about the possibility of including charging stations at the site however, additional funding would be required.

**Renovation of E K Long** – Scott Hebert explained that the gym which had formerly been used for women's basketball would now be utilized for women's volleyball. As such the gym would require changes / replacements of the flooring and scoreboards. Painting would also be required. Funding for these renovations will be donor funded. Work has begun on the removal of carpeting, etc. There are plans for creating meeting areas, multi-purpose upgrades and soundproofing. Liz Landry posed a question regarding the bleachers with interest in whether the bleachers could be sold, to which Mr. Hebert responded that since the bleachers' foundation is integral to the gym's foundation, it would be impossible to remove them.

**Primate House CO6 grant for NIRC** – Scott Hebert initially mentioned the important role in COVID vaccine development at NIRC by Pfizer in the past 2 years. In an effort to continue to take a leading role in such endeavors, providing adequate primate housing is of importance. Funding from the CO6 grant would be sufficient for constructing 3 buildings at NIRC for primate housing. These 3 buildings could accommodate approximately 9000 animals.

**Biomedical Manufacturing Facility at NIRC** – Scott Hebert explained that in light of the recent studies done, serious consideration is given to creating a Biomedical Manufacturing Facility at NIRC. Currently NIRC has sufficient lab and research space for such an undertaking as well as more than adequate space for Pfizer, Merck and others for manufacturing. Updates will be forthcoming.

**Campus Cupboard** – Margarita Perez provided an overview of student needs for food security. Currently the Campus Cupboard is located in 2 closets of the Intensive English Program building on Cherry Street

which is woefully insufficient for meeting the needs of the growing number of students and others who need short-term assistance meeting their food needs. The Follets building – recently vacated when the bookstore was moved to the Heritage – is available and can better meet the ability for distributing food to those on campus who are in need.

It has been determined that the Campus Cupboard can take over the first floor of the Follets building and that the Career Closet can be moved from Agnes Edwards to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the building thereby providing adequate space for both campus services.

Currently the National Guard will continue utilizing the space through May 20. Barring unforeseen circumstances, Campus Cupboard and Career Closet should be fully operational by FA22.

No major renovation is required however, Margarita did note that the lights for the facility were at the back of the building and she would like them moved to the front.

**Lighting Subcommittee Report** – Gretchen Vanicor reported for Thomas Sammons and Liz Landry. At nightfall, our campus goes dark. Excepting for the acorn lighting throughout campus – which are for safety purposes – none, if any of our buildings and gateways are visible. Architectural lighting could transform our dark campus. Uplighting our majestic oaks, white columned buildings and gateways are seen as ways for improving the evening appearance of our campus being mindful not to add much lighting to our residential areas.

In some instances, changing the type of lighting used may be sufficient as pointed out by Scott Hebert in reference to Liz Landry's inquiry of changing the lighting on the cupola at Martin Hall.

There being no further discussions, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Minutes transcribed by: Leslie Schilling