

AGENDA

Facilities & Support Services Committee (FSSC)

3/14/2022 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

1. Call to order

Yvette Bendeck – the meeting was called to order by the Chair – Dr. Bendeck on time.

Present members were:

Full Name

Denney, Mark Alan

Bendeck, Yvette M

Jambhekar, Neeta V

Carter, Katherine McNally

Gonzalez, Miguel A

Topham, Megan

Sero, Deja Shawna

Glass, Harry William

Shan, Gene

Stephens, Brian

Njoku, Erica

Kitchen, Steven M.

Beamer, Jennifer Lynn

Ryan, Susan

Laura Knutson

Pedro, Joan Yvonne

Brown, Amber Leigh

Woodcock, Brandon

Dugre, Neal T

Friedman, Yvonne Hernandez

2. Approval of Meeting Notes: 2/14/2022

Yvette Bendeck – the meeting notes from February were posted late to the folder, so a few minutes were provided for members to review them – then a call to approve the notes was made. Dr. Gonzalez moved to approve, Dr. Brown 2nded. The meeting notes were approved by majority: 13-0-0.

3. Old Business

SEM space reallocation proposal – (second read) - 25 minutes

Discussion:

Dr. Brian Stephens – SAUS Chair – felt the subcommittee understood the need but was challenged with the move of the Student Accessibility Services Center movement out of the SSCB would disadvantage students, more so than the benefit of moving Veteran’s Office to the first floor.

Dr. Bendeck – USA Rep from the SAUS Meeting –

Mark Denney – offered two major consistent themes from SAUS was that the conversion of classrooms was a challenge in that the University will hopefully continue to grow in enrollment and losses of classrooms will be challenging to replace.

Dr. Neal Dugre – asked about comparable square feet of the current Student Accessibility space and the proposed. The total square feet proposed is roughly similar, but a different shape, which until drawings are made, it is impossible to say how that will impact “available space”.

It was asked if the pantry and clothing closet were planned to move with the Dean of Students or if they would be moving elsewhere. They will be moving elsewhere, in the 1st floor suite and would not be moved with the Dean of Students

Questions concerning the space the Registrar currently occupies vs. the planned space, it is roughly similar, but until floorplans are developed, it is not guaranteed that the space would be adequate.

Dr. Hunter, Exec Director for Student Accessibility Services offered concerns over distances required to travel from building entrances to the proposed new space would impact students, and that while it is possible that the space would facilitate better service to students.

Concerns over the long term vs. short term. It is the goal of the campus to create a student center, but on a best case scenario, it may be 7+ years before new construction occurs on campus

Dr. Dugre moved that the Committee move this proposal forward, with a lit of concerns and recommendations without approval. Dr. Amber Brown 2nded. The motion passed 10-1-1

Pocket prairie proposal – Megan Topham – 10 minutes - (first read)

Dr. Megan Topham, Director for IHAPS, presented the proposal, originally brought forward by the Environmental Justice Association (a student group). The original proposal was a more central location, which created challenges for sustainability, expansion, and multiple use of

space. With the goal of opening the campus at Entrance 2, the proposal was moved to that space, and is moving forward as a pilot program. This lowers the maintenance cost of that space, restores a more natural environment, and an education opportunity for our students and community. FSSC endorsed the proposal 12-0-0, and forwarded to University Council, in concert from the endorsement of University Life Committee.

Bicycle proposal – Brandon Woodcock – 10 minutes - (first read)

Brandon Woodcock presented a proposal for implementation of an electric bicycle program on the UHCL campus – presentation attached. The proposal would ultimately place four charging/locking stations across the Campus. The proposal would require that the Campus pay for the installation of the stations, Houston BCycle would supply the cycles. Laura Knutson of Houston BCycle also presented.

Discussion:

1. Nearest charging station – within the 610 Loop of the Greater Houston area, thereby making it unlikely that users could take a bike off campus and use it for anything except a round trip option.
2. What would the cost be to take a bike off campus – to home, keep it overnight, then bike to campus the next day? It is an hourly rate – so if there is no charging station at the other end of the trip – it would be very expensive for students to use in this manner.
3. If there an app that would quickly identify stations? Yes, there is, though none are even reasonably close to the UHCL or Pearland Campus. They are likely located close to TMC
4. In other stations – did external organizations fund similar costs as being asked here.
5. Traffic management issues would need to be addressed. This is a normal practice to partner with the institution that is working to implement alternative mobility paths. Other Universities they are partnered with, however, are all located within the 610-loop beltway: UH, UHD, Rice, and TSU
6. Could this be a portion of addressing the University’s parking and transportation challenges. Yes, but without the corresponding infrastructure, it would be challenging until that developed.
7. Value of supporting further transportation to university apartments not affiliated with the University – such as University Forest Apartments. This is a question, not an answer.

4. New Business/Announcements

ParkMobile Valet - Harry Glass (Parking and Transportation Committee) - 10 minutes

Postponed to the next meeting.

Announcements

There were no announcements.

