

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, FRESNO
Fresno, California 93740

Campus Planning Committee

Minutes

October 23, 2015

Members

Present: Deborah Adishian-Astone, Taylan Bennett, Robert Boyd, Mike Coles, Yolanda Doub, Paul Halajian, Brad Hyatt, John Kriebs, Dennis Nef, Jan Parten, Patrick Newell, Donald Stengel, Gary Wilson, Sandra Witte and William Wright

Absent: John Bushoven, Eric Chan (C.O.), Hongwei Dong, Rick Finden, Tom Gaffery, Lisa Kao, Frank Lamas, Jeff Macon, Fred Nelson, Chris Pluhar, Mike Tillman and Richard Vaillancour

Guests: Kevin Ayotte, Lee Ayres, Kirsten Corey, Melissa Ginotti, Sara Mitchel, Michael Mosinski, Lori Pardi, John Valentino and Katie Williamson

Meeting called to order at 8:07 a.m.

1. Approval of the October 23, 2015, agenda. It was MSC to approve the agenda.
2. Approval of the September 25, 2015, minutes. It was MSC, with one abstention, to approve the minutes.
3. Renaming of Free Speech Area (*Action*) – Melissa Ginotti

This was presented as an informational item on September 25, 2015, and pertains to renaming of the Free Speech area, located between the University Center and the University Student Union as well as the area east of the Speakers Platform.

Ms. Ginotti provided an update regarding the project and indicated that the surveys and discussions were indicating a clear preference towards designating the space as the Bulldog Plaza. However, additional feedback from the Academic Senate and colleagues on the academic side indicate that additional consideration should be given to selecting a name that would capture the concepts of dialogue and community and the history that generated the Free Speech Area name.

There was also discussion regarding the potential addition of an element that marks the space and somehow preserves the history of the area in an artful way.

After considerable discussion with regard to the name change and whether or not there is a need to rename the area, the committee determined that it was not ready to make a recommendation and that additional consultation might be necessary.

4. Additional Booth Locations for Student Clubs/Organizations (*Action*) – Melissa Ginotti

This was presented as an informational item on September 25, 2015. Ms. Ginotti returned with a proposal that would allow Student Activities to designate specific spaces just east of the Speakers Platform and north of the University Center for reservations that include the use of informational tents and/or tables in these areas.

The spaces would accommodate a 10 x 10 pop up tent and/or a 6 ft. table and would be designated by using a lettering or numbering system. Reservations for these designated spaces would go through the Reservations Office.

Mr. Wilson confirmed that Facilities Management reviewed the plan and did not have concerns from an accessibility standpoint or with fire lane and emergency access.

This is a high traffic area and additional efforts will be made to communicate that it is a wheels off area.

Mr. Boyd suggested using thermoplastic paint to mark the spaces as it is durable and may provide a better value in the long run.

The Student Union would handle costs and maintenance associated with this project.

Dr. Newel moved to approve the project as presented, seconded by Dr. Doub. There was no additional discussion. The motion carried without opposition or abstention.

5. Tree Fresno Demonstration Garden (*Informational*) – Richard Vaillancour /Lee Ayres/John Valentino

Mr. Ayres presented information and a drawing of the proposed Tree Fresno Demonstration Garden. Mr. Valentino spoke regarding the landscape design and plant materials. The plan was prepared by Mr. Vaillancour.

One of Tree Fresno's five strategic priorities is education. There is a keen interest in what we do with the drought and what we do in order to achieve water reduction objectives. People are realizing that they can still have green vibrant landscapes but it will require transitioning to different plant material. That means less turf, more trees and more low-water use plants.

The demonstration garden is one way to communicate that message. The exhibit would provide an example of how to accomplish this and what it looks like.

Working with Dr. Bushoven and Ms. Calliope Correia, a predominant component of this project will be the outdoor classroom. The Horticulture Center is a great location to promote the idea of creating useful sustainable spaces by creating an interactive garden that one can walk through.

The area would be accessible and the project team has been and will continue to work with Facilities Planning to ensure that all requirements for this project are met. This improvement would not affect the Ag operations in this area.

Dr. Witte commented that the site was toured with Dr. Bushoven and Ms. Correia and she believes it will be good for our students and will strengthen the university's connection with the community by providing a resource and model for such a project.

Mr. Mosinski stated that the Arboretum Committee fully supports this project and that the drought has increased the need and desire for more examples of this sort.

Consultation has occurred with Professor Ron Nishinaka and Ms. Correia for potential student involvement.

Mr. Boyd added that April 9 is National Service Day which will provide a large volunteer work force and might be something to consider as these plans develop.

Further review is necessary with regard to parking and the path of travel so as to ensure that it meets all the Plan Check requirements, specifically as it relates to ADA compliance. This would not necessarily put a burden on this project, but is something that needs to be reviewed by Facilities Management for this entire area in general.

6. Arboretum Committee (*Update*) – Michael Mosinski

The Arboretum Committee met on October 7, 2015, and walked a few campus routes and areas to assess the condition of the trees and take a first-hand look, from an Arboretum lens, at some of the areas throughout the campus.

Some of the areas that were covered were the north end of Maple Mall, lawn area between the Agricultural Sciences building, Satellite Student Union and San Ramon walkway north of McLane.

Mr. Mosinski provided an update with regard to the tree care plan, removal of dead or diseased trees and replacement or new trees that have been planted in recent months.

Tree care work/cleanup will continue through the winter break, specifically an assessment of the 26 Poplar trees around the Amphitheater, six Redwood trees along Cedar Avenue, three Redwood trees by the Horticulture Center, and a few others throughout the campus.

Grounds Services has planted over a hundred trees with the help of volunteers. An additional 60-70 trees will be planted on October 24 and in November with the help of student volunteers through the Jan and Bud Richter Center for Community Engagement and Service-Learning. Some of the areas include University High School, Smittcamp Alumni House, Kremen School of Education building along Keats Avenue, parking lot P20, north of Barstow Avenue, east side of the North Gym, and the front of the Industrial Technology building.

Mr. Boyd suggested that the Arboretum Committee consider using the larger box replacement trees for some areas as plans develop, especially along the tree walk route.

The water irrigation controller system has been installed. This new system provides the staff greater ability to monitor, access and control irrigation throughout the campus. Auxiliary units will also have access to the system since it allows for varying degrees of control.

Due to the number of construction projects and the ongoing drought, the campus will not be seeding the entire campus lawn areas with rye grass. Only high traffic area such as the Peace Garden, south side of the library, University High School and the Smittcamp Alumni House will be seeded. This will provide an opportunity to do a lot of aggressive weed control over the winter and provide a savings.

7. Other Business – None

Meeting Adjourned at 9:20 a.m.