

Senate Minutes

9/19/02

Abstract

Report from Chair. Agenda amended and approved. Minutes amended and approved. Visit from Nancy Kaufman, Planning and Community Development Director for the City of Rohnert Park. Update on Provost Search. Campus Parking Update from Nate Johnson. School Calendar approved. Report from President.

ATTENDANCE:

Present:

Ruben Armiñana
Jan Beaulyn
Wanda Boda
Noel Byrne
Steve Cuellar
Marilyn Dudley-Flores
Ephraim Freed
Victor Garlin
Derek Girman
Bernie Goldstein
Bob Karlsrud
John Kornfeld

Heidi LaMoreaux
Rick Luttmann
Phil McGough
Susan McKillop
Robert McNamara
Edith Mendez
Scott Miller
Jen Minnich
Birch Moonwomon
GerryAnn Olson
Marcus Payne, III
Peter Phillips

Jeffrey Reeder
Elizabeth Stanny
Raye Lynn Thomas
Karen Thomson
Sunil Tiwari
Tim Wandling
Art Warmoth
Helmut Wautischer
Richard Whitkus
Steve Wilson
Steve Winter

Absent:

Robert Coleman-Senghor
Larry Furukawa-Schlereth (on vacation until October 1, 2002)
Eric McGuckin

Guests:

Rose Bruce
Judith Hunt
Jason Spencer
Elaine Sundberg

Meeting began 3:10pm

Report of the Chair of the Senate - Noel Byrne

Approval of the Agenda:

Brookfield Bay Area Homes:

N. Byrne announced that for the third time Brookfield Homes had cancelled at the last minute after initially accepting our invitation to join us at this meeting. In their place, (but not from Brookfield's perspective) will be Nancy Kaufman, Planning and Community Director for the City of Rohnert Park. She very graciously agreed to come and update us on the development plans for the property North of SSU.

Campus Parking:

N. Byrne met with Larry Schlereth to discuss the parking resolution that was submitted to administration. Their meeting was very productive and one of the results was to have Dr. Nate Johnson, Chief of University Police, join us for an update on this issue.

Consent Items:

Approval of the Agenda:

No. 2: University Logo Update (Susan Kashak) will not be discussed at this time. This needs to be reviewed by the Executive Committee.

(Item for Executive Committee Agenda)

No. 8: Discussion of Steve Orlick's Traffic Study will not take place.

The Traffic Study was not as extensive as the Executive Committee was led to believe.

No. 10: Resolution to Study Gas Emissions as SSU. (Dolly Friedel)

This item first to be presented to the Executive Committee.

(Item for Executive Committee Agenda)

No other changes.

- Agenda approved as amended

Approval of the Minutes:

For September 5, 2002

Corrections:

Page 1: Correct Myrna Goodman's name on the attendance portion of the minutes.

Page 1: Chair of Senate Report

N. Byrne introduced the following new members to the Senate Committee.

Correction: N. Byrne introduced the following new members to the Senate ~~Committee~~.

Page 4: Chair-Elect of the Senate - Rick Luttmann

How AC restructuring should be handled.....

Correction: How academic restructuring should.....

Page 4: Chair-Elect of the Senate - Rick Luttmann

Need to identify a representative to participate on Senate.

Need to identify a representative to assist in Goldstein replacement search.

Correction: Need to identify representatives to participate on Senate.

Page 3: Correction: Need to identify representatives to assist in Goldstein
Campus Parking:
R. McNamara - clarification:
"When are warnings to be turned into tickets?"
Page 3: Campus Parking:
S. Winter: Asks for a report of traffic flow and plans for new interests
and exits.
Correction: S. Winter: Asks for a report of traffic flow and plans for
new entrances and exits.

- Minutes approved as amended

N. Byrne welcomed two new committee members from Associated Students:
Ephraim Freed and Marcus Payne, III.

Correspondences: None

BUSINESS

Nancy Kaufman, Planning and Community Development Director for the City of Rohnert Park, joined us to discuss the Land Use Plan for the University District. N. Kaufman presented several large colored maps for discussion purposes.

On the property North of the University, will be approximately 1,610 mixed housing units, park, wetland, paths and commercial area similar to a "plaza" format. Plans are still being discussed for a possible small hotel and/or market.

First Phase will be the land section South of Rohnert Park Expressway, West of the Green Center. 302 single family units will be built. Approximately 110 will be medium density housing units, with 62 of the 110 with second units (garages). Timeline: 2 to 3 years. The developers still need to submit an E.I.R. (Environmental Impact Report).

The last phase of the project would be the marketplace plaza, located directly across from Phase I on Rohnert Park Expressway.

N. Kaufman informed the Senate that the large earth mounds between Rohnert Park Expressway and Keiser Avenue are for soil tests. She also stated that the large stand of oak trees as well as other large oaks will be left undisturbed. The developers plan to leave 100 to 150 feet of land along each side of the Hinebaugh Creek.

Cotati/Rohnert Park Unified School District has not announced what it plans to do with the property it owns directly in back of Creekside Middle School.

R. Luttmann: Stated that there was a lot to like about the plan, but he did have concerns. Development on the southern and western borders have been a

disappointment to the university community. He stated that we need to interface with the community - we are not and cannot be an island. Announced that not enough high density (=low cost) housing adjacent to campus. Very concerned about the commercial area across the street on RP Expressway - the proposed marketplace area. How will this help us? Too far for the university community to easily access since it is on the wrong side of Rohnert Park Expressway. Given the increased traffic flow that will occur, it will be difficult for pedestrians to cross. Was informed that the marketplace was to be one of the last phases built since it would need to be supported by the new housing being built in the area. If this is so, who is this meant to service? Clearly not for the University, as we are ready to shop now.

R. Luttmann also emphasized the real need for affordable housing for faculty and students.

N. Kaufman: Didn't wish to get into the housing issue but did state that the land use plan is very close to the one that was approved by the city council in the general plan. Noted that the original plan for the marketplace was to serve both the University and the Community at large. Also stated that since this area was already serviced by utilities, it made sense to start Phase I at this location.

E. Mendez: Asked what plans had been created to deal with the extra traffic that will occur on Petaluma Hill Road and Rohnert Park Expressway.

N. Kaufman: Agreed that this will be a problem but did state that Rohnert Park would take responsibility if Santa Rosa and Petaluma would also step up to the plate. Neither city has agreed to help. Penngrove thus far has rejected 8 different traffic plans.

She also noted that the Green Center was not paying for any upgrades to the RP Expressway - but that Brookfield was picking up the costs to do so.

V. Garlin: Asked how are the interests of SSU communicated.

N. Kaufman: Stated that she had 8 contact names on her list regarding SSU. They also continue to send out notices when meetings are scheduled. Please let Carol Tamagni know (ext. 42801) if you wish to be added to this mailing list.

V. Garlin: How is SSU reacting to a project of this scale?

R. Armiñana: Meets with City Council 3 or 4 times a year to express our concerns, mostly about affordable housing. For the last 7 or 8 months Brookfield has not responded to any of our requests for discussion about affordable housing, not even a response to our offer to purchase the Bradley parcel. What SSU is waiting for is the E.I.R. , then a formal response can be presented.

S. Miller: Puzzled about the General Plan. Originally the plan was to service SSU - at least in part. What is the mechanism to enforce this language - politically or legally?

N. Kaufman: Legally, 15% of the homes have to be affordable housing. The developer is building a variety of types of housing, with mixed size lots in a block area. This is called new urbanism.

N. Byrne: In the past, have developers donated housing to SSU?

R. Arminana: The property behind Taco Bell - 5 houses were donated and 6 were purchased by SSU (townhouses).

R. Luttmann: Noted that Administration and Faculty share the same view on this matter. He does not feel that the plan as approved, is serving the needs of SSU. The citizens of Rohnert Park agreed to ok this project on the basis that this property was to also serve SSU - we have a right to have our needs meet.

N. Byrne: Announced that N. Kaufman need to depart and thanked her for joining us on such short notice.

3. Update on Provost Search

N. Byrne stated B. Goldstein's term will end July 1, 2003, and the selection of his replacement would be commencing.

The membership of the search committee will consist of:

- Two members appointed by the President
- One member selected by the Executive Board of the Associated Students
- Four members (faculty or members elected by the Faculty)
(Please see attached Policy for further details.)

Regarding the selection of the faculty members at large, 3 must be from instructional faculty.

The Structures and Functions committee will prepare a list of nominees for the elected faculty positions. Nominations will be sought from the faculty as a whole and may be made from the floor of the Academic Senate, at the next meeting.

R. Luttmann: Structures and Functions has stated that they want to proceed immediately with an election notice which will be distributed this Friday to all faculty.

Reminder: Make sure that you have the nominee's consent prior to nominating him/her.
(Item for Senate Agenda)

4. Campus Parking Update

N. Byrne welcomed Dr. Nate Johnson, Chief of University Police, who was here on behalf of Larry Schlereth to discuss campus parking issues

N. Johnson: At the start of each academic year the campus always has parking problems - but this year the situation is worse for the following reasons: Increased enrollment, construction and the elimination of off-campus parking.

To help the situation, his team has held off on aggressive ticketing, has opened up Parking Lot K, and has ordered new parking permit machines to be installed in the next few weeks.

Dr. Johnson foresees the situation will get worse if we do not stay on top of this problem. He is also looking at ways to encourage more students and faculty to bike or walk to work. For a start, he is looking at newer, more modern bike racks that will more easily accommodate the newer bike locking systems that are now used.

He is strongly urging the construction company to open the new parking lots (Lots L,M,N,O) as soon as possible. Thus far, one lot is on track to open between October 15th and 31st.

His team has been instructed to cite for no permits, hazardous parking and parking in handicapped parking only. The only time a car will be towed is if the owner has had numerous parking tickets.

Dr. Johnson will have more information about how to reduce the parking problem after he attends the Alternative Transportation Meeting which is scheduled for next month.

T. Wandling: What is the policy regarding pedestrian safety issues while in transit from car to class? This has become a problem - what steps are being taken to make sure that there are no accidents.

N. Johnson: His staff is making sure that those high traffic times/places are staffed by a policeperson.

P. Phillips: With the elimination of off-campus parking, the most seriously affected population will be those low-income students who cannot afford to park on campus. What is being done to assist them? Did administration make this move in the anticipation of increased revenue or did they consider how this would impact the neighborhoods in the area?

N. Johnson: Responded that administration did not take away off-campus parking for the purpose of increasing revenue (Noted that off-campus parking made up only 60 spaces.) He also noted that SSU was coordinating with the City of Rohnert Park to create some sort of residency type of parking permits to protect neighboring homeowners. In the meantime his department is also trying to inform students where they can legally park in residential areas.

P. Phillips: Asked about special prices for low income students/faculty.

N. Johnson: Have already looked at a program - but has come up with no fair way to set this program up. Another way was to advise low income students that they can have the cost of parking factored into their student financial loan package.

H. Wautischer: What about no U-turn and speed signs along perimeter roads. If SSU owns the land in question and is thus liable, can we not put up these signs?

N. Johnson: No. We have no authority to post traffic signs. Only the county has the right. In the past having to work with Sonoma County to get things changed, like traffic signs has been difficult.

R. Armiñana: The key is ownership. We thought the land belonged to the county - not SSU. Turns out that the county has the easement for a road. In the last 35 years traffic conditions have changed dramatically and the fact that we now know that we own the land changes everything, especially the fact that we are liable, if there is a problem.

H. Wautischer: Is there still a chance for discussion regarding changing the off campus policy?

R. Armiñana: Absolutely no chance.

V. Garlin: Understands that the off-campus parking policy will not be changed but wants to see the traffic reports/statistical reports that led to the new policy.

N. Johnson: Did not have the reports with him, but will research for V. Garlin. N. Johnson did state that he worked in and fostered a proactive environment and that part of the decision came from this spirit.

M. Payne: Can an additional third stop sign be placed at the entrance of the campus (near information booth)? The 3-way stop is confusing.

E. Freed: Regarding off campus parking, was the safety issue known before the liability issue was discovered?

R. Armiñana: Parking on both sides of Petaluma Hill Road and E. Cotati Avenue is too dangerous. Sonoma County had approved parking on these two roads, but later banned parking along far sides only. Now that we know that we are liable for any accidents, we are making policy changes to reflect this.

J Spencer: Is there no authority for free parking to be offered to low income students? If so, then why?

N. Johnson: SSU policy states that we will charge for parking. Plus there has been no program established regarding the purpose of free parking.

R. Armiñana: Reminded the Senate that parking revenue can only be used for parking and parking projects. This is a self-supporting program that gets no university monies.

*T. Wandling asked to move the agenda.
Motion seconded. There was no objection.*

5. Approval of School Calendar

Elaine Sundberg is here to discuss obtaining approval for academic calendar years 2005/2006 and 2006/2007. Five years of calendars need to be approved for planning purposes.
(see 2 pages attached).

B. Byrne noted that this agenda item as well as 6. and 7. are *First Readings*.

S. Wilson read a communication he had written. (see attached)

S. Wilson's report and the Senate discussion centered around the issue that the end of semester differs from the end of working days for unemployment filing.

Also at issue is that feeling that the ending semester dates are never clearly stated. E. Sundberg did inform the Senate that all dates were clearly noted in every lecturers appointment letter.

N. Byrne interrupted discussion noting that the time was now 5:00pm. Asked for any objections to continuing for 10 more minutes.

P. McGough stated that reports would take more than 10 minutes.

-Motion approved to continue meeting until 5:10pm

N. Byrne stated that those reports or items that needed to be brought to our attention before the next Senate Meeting should be submitted to SenateTalk.

REPORTS

Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs - (B. Goldstein)

No report was given due to time constraints.

President of the University - (R. Armiñana)

Budget Update. On September 2nd, the Assembly passed the budget that the Senate approved, except for the \$750 million that the Governor will reduce at some unspecified point in time. No single agency will be hit for more than 5%. No indication of when the cut will occur - more than likely not until after the upcoming election. There are some legal questions, the Legislature does not come back until January when they will wrap things up and prepare for the newly elected Legislature. Then the budget will be voted upon.

These are some different scenarios that can happen:

After November election the Governor may announce the cuts; or

No announcement until January.

Some cuts, but not the \$750 million

There is no other news regarding the budget and none expected at this time.

S. McKillop asked about if he had heard about President Bush's proposal regarding the nation's universities' accountability for graduation. Also asked if this applied to SSU.

R. Arminana: Stated that there has been much discussion regarding this subject, but thus far this is only conversation. The Trustees are concerned about this and the general retention problems and progress toward graduation and have organized a task force team to address this issue.

Vice President/Admin. and Finance - (L. Furukawa-Schlereth)

L. Furukawa-Schlereth is on vacation until October 1, 20002. No report

President of the Associated Students - (J. Mennich)

Due to time constraints, no report was given.

Chair-Elect of the Senate - Rick Luttmann (for C. Nelson)

No report was given due to time constraints.

Statewide Senators - (S. McKillop, P. McGough) –

No report was given due to time constraints.

Chairs, Standing Committee - (Coleman-Senghor, Warmoth, Poe, Brannen)

APC

No report was given due to time constraints.

EPC

No report was given due to time constraints.

FSAC

No report was given due to time constraints.

SAC

No report was given due to time constraints.

Items from the Floor - None

Good of the Order - None

Again, N. Byrne encouraged those members who were not able to give a report to submit their reports to SenateTalk.

Adjournment 5:10pm

Respectfully submitted by Carol Tamagni