

Plant Utilization and Planning Committee Meeting
May 16, 2012
DRAFT

Present: John Wilds, Paul Munro, Irene Frieze, Marilyn Ross, Tracey Olanyk, Amy Baker, Buck Favorini, Jesse Gidley, Eli Shorak, Debra Fyock, Laura Zullo, Joe Fink, Paul Supowitz, Pat Weiss, Susanna Leers

Introductions were done and it was announced that Irene Frieze, Paul Munro, and Pat Weiss were newly elected members.

The March 21st minutes were approved with no changes.

Buck gave an update on the Sustainability Subcommittee. The University participated in the greenest schools survey for the first time and came in at 92 (beating out CMU and Penn State). The University Times will have a blurb about this accomplishment. Buck recognized the amount of effort people put in to get us that ranking on this list.

Buck mentioned there was talk/e-mails about the Deitrich School or Dean of Students Sustainability coordinator? This was initiated by the students but Buck is not a part of this, he will look into it. The subcommittee's next meeting is in the fall.

Facilities update- They are meeting Monday with a writer from the Pitt Magazine. The magazine is doing a series on sustainability. They are touring the Corrilla plant and the Cathedral of Learning on Monday and will also be writing about Recycle mania and bicycling on campus.

Buck attended a conference on sustainability in theater. He hopes to work on making our theaters as green as we can, as well as a way to market this project to get funding.

Eli gave a brief update on the books store renovations- They will be completing the design over the next couple weeks. They are hoping to get planning and finance approval in June. The bookstore will be open until the end of the fiscal year and then will move to the Got Used Book store space. They hope to do demolition in the summer months. And to have the new store open by June of 2013. This project will take place all in the existing space of the book center. They are looking for the redesign to serve the needs of Faculty, Staff, Students and the general community. And they want the space to be flexible because the book industry is changing. They need to name the book store.

Lami Grub gave a presentation on the bookstore redesign. He started off with photos of the existing building. The whole first floor and basement are being renovated. Main renovation of the outside is on 5th avenue and they are working with Historical to make sure the façade is keeping with the historical ? the iron rail will also be updated. There will be a new traffic signal by student housing. The new entrance will be by the entrance to University Place. There will be minor renovations in the quad and they are keeping the second entrance in the quad for students. They are removing a back batch of office to make more room for book space.

There will be a grand staircase and an elevator to the basement. They are adding a skylight to open up the space and bring in more natural light. There will be a tech row which the bookstore will be partnering with CSSD to have people who are trained in computers and can walk students/staff through computer accessories and features. There are plans to build on this and make it a multimedia area for people to get advice and hands on expertise (but not computer repair). There will also be a café with seating that can expand or contract as needed.

Marilyn Ross reported on fitness facilities. Marilyn started off by giving a history of the intramural/recreation program. Facility info is on the website. <http://www.intramurals.pitt.edu/> There is a mailing list you can subscribe to in order to get automatic updates if there is an alert or new schedule. The University was voted #12 on the list of 25 healthiest colleges in the US.

John Wilds talked about meeting with the city traffic engineer. There are problems at various intersections. Some are rated F for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. They are looking at an all stop at Bigelow similar to the Craig/5th Ave and Craig/Forbes intersections. But they want to investigate the impact of the new light at 5th and University Place before they investigate an all stop.

PAT- Service cuts are still in the works need to talk to Harrisburg. There was a drop in ridership once people needed to scan ids. But the numbers still aren't quite right, it's hard to accurately compare the previous numbers because of the route changes and cuts.

Eli then went over some of the suggested names for the remodeled book store and asked for suggestions. They want the name to somehow indicate that the store has more than books and is open to the community.

Meeting was adjourned.

Thanks it's been fun.

Tracey