

**MINUTES
FACULTY SENATE
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY PLANNING
November 16, 2006 - 2:30 p.m., 146 Justin Hall**

Present: Behnke, Bloodgood, Condia, Herald, Kearns, Oberst, Rowlett, Shubert, Stokes, Wang,

Absent: Collins, Gormely, Maddy, McKinney, and Yahnke

Visitor: Mayor Bruce Snead

1. Tom Herald, Chair, called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Herald gave a brief explanation to Mayor Snead of what the purpose of the committee is and some of the recent items that have been looked into. The city/university relationship is something they would like to discuss.
2. The October 19, 2006 minutes were approved as submitted.
3. Guest: Mayor Bruce Snead
Mayor Snead began by giving a brief history of his work in Manhattan. He feels that the city/university relationship doing well and that communication is good. When the university was annexed into the city the city/university fund was started. Projects of mutual benefit would be recommended by the university to the city to be placed on the agenda for review. Funding for projects from the butterfly gardens to the street updates such as the Anderson Ave. widening are things that this fund works towards. Funds are about 3K per year. Herald asked if the city/university stopped funding the safe ride program. When the "Safe Ride" proposal was accepted, it was for the initial year of funding with the intent of ongoing funding from the university if the program was successful. Mayor Snead consults with the Master Plan for the university and coordinates with city plans to review any ripple effects of university projects on the city or vice versa. Herald mentioned the parking garage and asked how this will affect the city and what type of communication needs to happen. Mayor Snead feels the city will need information such as what the traffic flow will be on Anderson Ave with the construction of the garage. Herald gave an example of the BRI building that just went up and asked if that was a smooth process. Mayor Snead said the city's concerns were answered adequately and early on and this is important in any project. Mayor Snead said that, of course, miscommunications do happen as with all organizations, but he feels that the city and university have a very good working relationship. Herald said, as a committee, our concern is that the communication is open and effective. Mayor Snead discussed the current regional institutional planning going on. Ft. Riley impacted growth is a challenge for the entire region. Starting right now through the next 6-9 months, Manhattan will be working on growing to meet the demands of a higher population. A key recommendation is that a regional, or multi-county, planning organization should be created to care for needs such as these. The growth has impacted and will continue to impact Manhattan directly. One direct impact you can see is the housing growth. Behnke questioned impact as far as the airport goes and whether we will see any growth there. Mayor Snead responded that this has been an issue for years and the city has continually tried to work on this. He is hopeful the strategic planning grant will help in getting a new carrier. He hopes the Essential Air Service, which is what we currently have in Manhattan, will be discontinued and we can be given options for other carriers. Oberst questioned transportation in Manhattan and whether any plans are in the works for a mass transportation system. Mayor Snead responded when we have the growth to respond to that need it will be brought up again. It was addressed in 1997/1998, so research from that time can be used, if the need arises, in the future. Redevelopment of the south district of Manhattan was asked about. Mayor Snead responded that this is in the works and we will be hearing more about it in the coming months. He commented that on November 28, 2006 a work session will be held to discuss circulation in and around Aggieville and the surrounding area. A parking garage has often been discussed. Planning for parking garages on campus is definitely something that the city and university would want to communicate about. Condia discussed the new housing building on Manhattan Ave. He does feel the increase in higher density housing around campus is good. Condia also brought up that the university will be keeping an eye on the water quality around campus and feels the city should also be doing this. Mayor Snead commended these efforts. Going back to parking, Stokes feels structured policies on parking will benefit the university and the city. Mayor Snead agrees and feels long-term planning will be very important, but challenging.

Stokes commented that he feels greater utilization of the university by the city to meet city/university needs could be done. Mayor Snead agreed and gave examples of times when this has happened, but a lot of press was not given to these events. Also, the real world calendar is sometimes different than the academic calendar and the university cannot always be used in real world situations. However, when this can be done, the opportunity should be seized.

Oberst commented on the lack of infrastructure around newly developed areas, such as no sidewalks, parks, and commercial areas. Mayor Snead responded that this is something the city is aware of. Each development is different as to how it is mapped out and what its needs are. Mayor Snead also discussed how city staffing and developers perceptions play into development of the city structure. Condia commented on several concerns he has about the recent growth around Manhattan.

Kearns questioned whether there are incentives to encourage newer faculty to Manhattan to move into the older parts of Manhattan and revitalize that part of town. At this point there are no incentives that Mayor Snead is aware of. But zoning controls have helped in areas in that single family homes have not turned into rentals.

Herald asked whether we are seeing more crime in Manhattan in recent months. Mayor Snead responded that due to the nature of growth that, yes, we have seen an increase in crime. However, measures have been taken to help with this by having greater foot patrol and adding on to the jail. Ft. Riley has also assisted by having personnel in areas such as Aggieville during high traffic times.

Wang asked how elementary schools will be affected by the growth. One change will be that Bluemont School will reopen next August as an active school again. The School Board will be taking an active role in preparing for this growth.

Behnke wanted to pass on commendation to the Riley County Police Department for helping alleviate traffic very effectively after this past weekend's game.

Herald thanked Mayor Snead for being here and answering many questions and concerns. If you have any further questions or concerns for Mayor Snead, please don't hesitate to email him or call him. (bsnead@ksu.edu or 785-532-6026).

4. Announcements

Contact CCOP and EXCOP chairs to participate in February meeting. Herald would like a list of names by the end of December of who will attend the February 15, 2007 meeting to talk about CCOP work.

5. Agenda items for future meetings

6. For the good of the university

Stokes mentioned a letter of opposition to the parking garage going around. It doesn't appear that many have seen it at this point. Stokes asked whether or not it is this committee's responsibility to have an opinion about the parking garage. Herald responded that we are welcome to; however, the parking garage has already been discussed by Faculty Senate and no resolution was passed approving the garage and Classified Senate did not pass a resolution either. Administration got the message that neither of the senates were pleased as a whole. The only group that passed anything was the Student Senate.

Condia commented that there are plans for classroom buildings. Herald asked that he would pass this information on to President Adams.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Next meeting:

December 7, 2006, 3:30 p.m., 503 Hale Library, County Commissioner Michael Kearns