

Campus Planning Committee meeting
Tuesday, October 16
1898 Room, UL Student Union

In attendance: Tom Sammons, Leslie Schilling, Gretchen Vanicor, David, Haley, Bill Crist, President Savoie, Susan Richard, Michael Bienvenue, Leah Orr, Stephanie Arceneaux, Andrea Leonard, Allison Launey, Natalie Keefer, Ashlie Latiolais, Robert McKinney and Stuart Glaeser.

The committee chair, Tom Sammons, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm with a welcome to all members in attendance. Each member introduced themselves and identified their respective departments. Each member received a copy of the agenda with an attachment of artist's renderings of the Heritage at Cajun Village.

The first agenda item was presented by Bill Crist, Director of Facilities Management. Bill discussed and described the various elements of the Heritage at Cajun Village and noted the tremendous progress that had already been accomplished in the construction despite the 21 rain days experienced in the month of September. He further noted, as part of the Heritage project, that construction of new maintenance facilities and bus depot at the Cherry Street property was nearing anticipated completion scheduled for mid-December, 2018. Once completed, the old maintenance buildings on campus will be torn down to clear the way for parking at the Heritage. Plans for parking were discussed and the goal is to provide 1.5 spaces for every 1 bed in the Heritage.

Gretchen Vanicor, Office of Sustainability Director, asked about the bike path from Lewis St. to St. Mary St. Bill stated that the official bike path was from St. Mary to St. Landry but that there would be access from the Heritage to St. Landry and further to Athletics and the Research Park at South Campus.

President Savoie announced that the university was in discussion with the landowners of the 2 pieces of property between the Heritage and Johnston Street and was hopeful that the university could acquire both. And, the university has been in discussion/negotiation with the City of Lafayette regarding the fire station adjacent to the aforementioned properties. Acquisition of the three properties on Johnston St would enhance access to the Heritage. The Heritage, beyond the luxury apartments for upperclassmen, will house some retail space, i.e., the Red Zone and will also have a fully appointed health club as well as a pool complete with lounging areas.

Bill Crist stated that the naming of the apartment complex was reached in an effort to provide continuity in branding. Cajun Village, the apartments for married students and located in the same area of campus was the deciding factor. Heritage at Cajun Village is the official name for the new apartment complex.

The next item on the agenda focused on the new pier at Cypress Lake. Due to the fact that a portion of Cypress Lake has been designated a protected wetland, attention and care must be taken with this project. The idea of driving piers into the lake could present risks during the construction process and stress for the flora and fauna that would be detrimental to the habitat. Consequently, it was determined by those tasked with design and function that the better alternative would be to build a floating pier. The pier would provide access to at least the mid-point of the lake. Call for

bids have been made and, pending costs, the project will be undertaken sometime in the spring 2019.

Discussion was then directed to the concept of building a pergola near the Plaza adjacent to Cypress Lake in order to provide shaded areas at the Plaza. The pergola will not resemble the standing arches between the Student Union and Cypress Lake as those were re-purposed from the old Student Union.

Bill gave an update on the Walk of Honor. The bricks with graduates of 2015 and 2016 are in and ready to be laid in front of the Student Union across from McLauren Hall. However, the decision was made to wait until after Homecoming to begin the project. The project will begin this week and should be completed by the end of this semester.

Once all agenda items were addressed and discussed, Tom opened the floor for discussion of other projects around campus.

Leslie Schilling spoke about the re-purposing of the Creamery building adjacent to the Ira Nelson Horticulture Center. The transformation of a facility from storage into an archeology lab is an important asset to Dr. Mark Rees' work on the Acadie Project, a project that has received much interest from the Smithsonian. It is expected that all renovation work will be complete for the start of the Spring 2019 semester. Besides serving as a research lab, classes will also be held in the facility.

Class gifts to the university were discussed by President Savoie. The projects for consideration are: 1) re-working the fountain in front of Martin Hall at University Avenue; 2) a large globe design with lights on the continents representing the countries from which our students come and 3) further the creation of Heritage Park representing the cultures and history of our area, perhaps utilizing the globe mentioned previously.

President Savoie mentioned that Heritage Park may be developed between Oliver Hall and Girard Park Circle. When asked if the location of the park would have any bearing on the relocation of Our Lady of Wisdom Church and Parish Center, Dr. Savoie indicated that the land for Wisdom would be limited to the paved parking area next to Earl K Long Gym.

Gretchen Vanicor discussed the need to preserve the Montezuma Cypress tree (a state champ at 16.5') between Billeaud Hall and the adjacent greenhouses. She stated that 4 parking spaces had been pulled up in order to lessen the stress on the root system. Further, there is discussion and planning to create a pocket park in the area which requires the removal and relocation of the greenhouses. The pocket park would be dedicated as the Amadée Ardoin Memorial with a lemon tree for the focal point. Working up plans and designs will be done by graduate students in Biology and the timeline for the project is being tended by Scott.

Thomas Klein, charged with sidewalk maintenance, will be acquiring new concrete quotes for stamping sections of sidewalks with quotes. The quotes will be gathered from all colleges and departments.

Gretchen announced that the solar field at the Research Park is complete and generating electricity. The electricity generation will be used to off-set the electricity used by athletics.

Also mentioned was the Seed Bank at Cade Farm. The renovation of the dairy into a functioning seed bank is complete.

Gretchen and Leslie discussed the Class Scheduling Workgroup's research into scheduling software directed by the Registrar's Office. Of the 4 softwares under consideration, Ad Astra offers more opportunity for utilization of many campus needs that are currently not met by our ERP, Banner. From optimizing our space utilization to better controlling energy costs as well as providing a comprehensive scheduling calendar for all spaces—classrooms, event spaces, housing availability—Ad Astra is currently front and center in consideration.

There being no further business, Tom adjourned the meeting.

Submitted:
Leslie Schilling
October 18, 2018