

## CAMPUS PLANNING COMMITTEE

September 23, 2009

2:30 – 4:00PM

Room 300– Rice Hall

Meeting Minutes

**Attendees:** Jim Adams, Mina Amundsen, Tom Cole, Mary-Lynn Cummings, David Cutter, Wayne Davenport, Ezra Delaney, Gilbert Delgado, Jessie Dimick, John Gutenberger, Tanya Husick, John Keefe, Marianne Krasny (Co-Chair), Maggie Markes, Jason Moore, Dan Roth, Pete Salino, Stephan Schmidt (Co-Chair), Mike Tomlan, and Gabrielle Voeller.

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Mina Amundsen opened the meeting and introduced Marianne Krasny as the new Co-Chair of the Committee . This was followed by introductions of everyone present.

### Large Animal Teaching Complex: Site Planning Options – Mina Amundsen

Mina presented the three site master plan alternatives which are being considered for the Large Animal Teaching Complex (LATC) project. The alternatives being considered are the grid, edge and fractal, with the fractal as the preferred alternative. Gilbert Delgado presented the design concept based on each site master plan alternative. Presentation for the approval of the Site Master Plan to Board of Trustees is expected to be December 2009.

### Discussion

- **Waste Management:** Marianne Krasny asked what was the plan for the manure storage and removal? Wayne Davenport indicated they are still exploring the removal options, but the design will provide for a storage pit behind the teaching dairy barn. The ultimate goal will be to compost the manure, however, the bedding used for the herd will be sand, and therefore need to go through a filtering process before composting is possible. Marianne also suggested to explore site water retention through the landscape, which asked the question about the process used for getting the manure to the storage pit. Wayne provided that the manure cleaning water is a closed system so there is no concern for site water contamination.
- **Design Concept:** John Gutenberger commented on the gateway element in the design and asked if it would be possible to pull that off, with the topography drop at that location. Gilbert Delgado indicated that the element would be evident in the roof of the teaching dairy barn.
- **Grounds Impact:** Jim Adams asked about the short term impact on the Grounds Department as he would like to see their facilities remain contiguous. Pete Salino commented that they will need to understand where the Grounds Department relocations will be. Mina indicated she will be continuing discussions with multiple stakeholders moves, i.e. Grounds, Transportation, and PDC.
- **McGowan Woods:** John Gutenberger stated, considering the close proximity to McGowan Woods, that it would be a good idea to speak with its stewards. Then the question was asked Who are the stewards? Mary-Lynn Cummings indicated she thought the Department of Natural

Resources was one of them. Other suggestions were to speak with Peter Marks (sp?) It was recommended that a stewards list be generated for McGowan Woods and to touch base with each before the project got too far along.

- **Sustainability:** It was discussed that the Teaching Dairy Barn will be seeking LEED Silver certification. This initiated discussions about creating energy from the waste. This is likely not feasible due to the cost of that process.
- **Schedule/Budget:** Mike Tomlan commented that in the current University Climate that Senior Administrations input on this project could certainly change the schedule and course of this project.

#### Landscape Updates: David Cutter

David Cutter provided an update on some landscape initiatives that have helped in Advancing the Sustainability Action Plan.

- **Tree Inventory:** A campus tree inventory was completed this summer by Cornell graduate students Fred Cowett in horticulture and Chris Gruber in landscape architecture; the inventory includes species name, tree size and location. They inventoried the trees on main campus, and used a program called Stratum to extract key climate action data. Some interesting facts are: There are 7,900 trees on central campus, containing 225 species, with the most common type; the common red oak. The inventory has also enabled Cornell to qualify for Tree Campus USA certification from the Arbor Day Foundation, a program that helps communities meet national quality standards for tree care and raise awareness about the importance of trees. In addition, a Tree Advisory Committee has been established with members from Cornell's Facilities Services, Plantations, Transportation, Faculty, Students, and the Ithaca Community
- **Campus Sustainability Day:** The Arbor Day Foundation recently selected Cornell as one of 10 campuses nationwide to take part in a special fall tree-planting event. The Arbor Day Foundation and the Toyota Corp. will fund the planting of up to 50 trees of Cornell's choosing, on October 22, 2009.
- **Naturalization:** Grounds has been mowing less this summer and new blends of grass have been used that don't require mowing as frequently.

#### Wrap-Up and Next Steps

Presentations will be posted on the University Assembly CPC website.