

minutes

S A S A K I



Architecture | Engineering | Planning

date 23 May 2008

project name University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Master Plan project # 07G2U

meeting date May 20, 2008 time 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

location Union – Fireside Lounge

recorded by Tyler Patrick

distribution Jon Jenson, Jeff Kosloske, Kate Sullivan, Patricia Arredondo, Chris Gluesing, Jim Vander Heiden, d'Andre Willis, Lora Strigens, Julie Penman, Greg Havens, Janne Corneil, Philip Parsons, Kathryn Madden

purpose Athletics and Recreation

These minutes represent a summary of the content and character of each meeting and are not meant to be an exhaustive list of the comments made. Also, these notes are an initial attempt to understand the student life, academic support, and external issues that affect UWM; we will return to gather additional information as necessary.

ATTENDEES

Jason Clark, Athletics
Bud Haidet, Athletic Director
Allen Lee, Student Affairs
Heath Powell, Recreational Sports and Facilities
Steven Mohar, Recreational Sports and Facilities
Sara Schillinger, Recreational Sports and Facilities
M.A. Kelling, Recreational Sports and Facilities
Kathy Litzau, Athletics
Kevin O'Connor, Athletics
Jon Jenson, Wisconsin Department of Administration
Jeff Kosloske, UW System
Kate Sullivan, UW System
Greg Havens, Sasaki
Tyler Patrick, Sasaki

SUMMARY

A. General Description and Function

1) Athletics

- Teams that use on-campus facilities: Women's basketball and volleyball, indoor track, soccer, men's basketball, baseball

- Teams that use off-campus facilities: Men's basketball, outdoor track, tennis, baseball. Men's and women's soccer use off-campus fields for practice.
- Off-campus facility use is done through leases with the city, county and private clubs.
- The cost to rent US Cellular Arena in downtown Milwaukee is \$400,000 per year. The League requires 5,000 seats.
- Athletics, Recreation, and Health Sciences all share space.
- Many UWM athletic teams cannot host conference tournaments due to lack of facilities; UWM is then at a competitive disadvantage.
- UWM has fallen behind competitors. UIC and Cleveland State are urban campuses but they have the appropriate facilities.
- Off-campus facilities present a problem in terms of scheduling classes because of the time required to travel to and from the facilities.
- Athletics is responsible for maintaining the practice fields, but they are available for public use.

2. Recreation

- There is no outdoor recreation space - everything must be rented from the County.
- Participation rates for outdoor intramural programs are not as high because students have to travel, and the University does not provide travel for recreation. Students must walk, cycle, or take city transit because many students do not have cars.
- Intramurals must be scheduled around the athletics schedule.
- Recreation routinely turns away teams because there is no space.
- Athletic offices are in the Pavilion; completely full already.
- The Klotsche Center and the Pavilion are fully utilized.
- January, February, and March are the busiest times of the year because of the demand on indoor facilities. Every sport is doing something indoors, whether it's in-season or pre-season.

B. Issues and Opportunities

1) Athletics

- Practice fields are an issue – there is very limited space.
- Want to attract students to attend basketball games but it's difficult to get them downtown. As a result, campus spirit is an issue.
- Athletics is considering establishing an off-campus Athletic Village located on Capital Avenue (3 miles north of campus), approximately 33 acres in size. This land represents the closest piece of vacant land to the Kenwood campus and would be close to the existing baseball field. The surrounding context is industrial so there would be no noise or lighting restrictions. The University is working with the Hamas Group to develop the site. UWM has even discussed the possibility of a residence hall there. Property could be purchased for about \$2 million; no known environmental issues. Only money is holding up the process. It is located in the city proper.
- The model for this type of development is the University of Cincinnati
- A basketball practice facility is needed; state funds cannot be used to build something like a basketball arena. There is currently a site across from the

Pavilion west entrance for this arena – it wouldn't have a huge impact on parking but it would on recreation and athletics.

- Student Fees - fiscally conservative group; difficult to raise fees to do project.
- Gifts would have to be a major component of the funding, especially to get the ball rolling.
- Current soccer field – would benefit from synthetic turf.
- If certain functions are moved off-campus, office space should remain on campus.

2) Recreation

- Athletics Village area would include outdoor recreation space as well.
- Basketball practice facility could benefit recreation
- There has been over a 50% increase in number of students using recreation facilities. Majority of students are on-campus residents, but many are not.
- Distributed Fitness Model – would be very interested in putting in satellite facilities on other locations or in residence halls.
- Current soccer field – would benefit from synthetic turf.
- Need for passive recreation – frisbee, etc.
- Disk Golf Course is wanted.

C. Collaboration

- Recreation and Athletics should partner in order to maximize potential and to expand.
- UWM has limited choices, so they are at the will of the city and county in terms of prices. No viable alternative options.
- The County owns all parks located in the city. UWM's contributions to park improvements do not seem to be on people's radar. Difficult to turn it around in terms of a partnership story.
- The County and City do not seem like willing partners to share facilities. Private institutions do not seem willing either; Marquette has what they need.
- Corporate sponsors are difficult to attract because of lack of facilities.

Next Steps

1. Document meeting minutes.
2. Perform data and site analysis throughout the summer.
3. Present initial analysis findings in the Fall.

The information above will stand as recorded unless Sasaki receives written comments within five days of the distribution date from a recipient requesting an amendment.