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Finance Committee

Campus Governance

2-27-2015

Finance minutes 02/27/2015

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Recommended Citation

Finance Committee, "Finance minutes 02/27/2015" (2015). *Finance Committee*. 65.
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UMM Finance Committee Minutes

2.27.15

Members Present: Dennis Stewart, Sara Haugen, Pieranna Garavaso, Mary Zosel, Jayne Blodgett, Laura Thielke, Marco Riley, Lowell Rasmussen

Members Absent: Michael Korth, Jong-Min Kim, Brad Deane, Timna Wyckoff, Ellery Wealot

Guests: Jacquie Johnson, Melissa Wroblecki-Note Taker

Agenda:

1. Approval of February 20th, 2015 minutes:

Corrections were sent before the meeting to Melissa, Lowell, and Dennis. The corrections will be made and the minutes will be recirculated to the committee for approval.

2. HEAPR Report: Presented by Lowell Rasmussen

Lowell began by handing out two sheets on HEAPR funding for the Morris Campus. The first was a list of places on campus that need upgrades and/or repairs. There were three columns on the sheet that displayed amounts that would be allocated to the different projects depending on the amount of funding the University of Minnesota System as a whole received. The first column was if the University of Minnesota System receives \$55M, second column \$40M, and the last column is if the University of Minnesota receives \$25M in HEAPR funding. Morris would receive 3% of the University of Minnesota's allocated amount for HEAPR.

In the last year the University Buildings Code department came out to Morris to inspect our buildings and flagged several items on campus that need to be brought up to code. HEAPR funds are only for infrastructure use, therefore UMM needs blended funding to fix the buildings and the programmatic issues on campus. Lowell stated that at the end of May we should hear back on the request of funds.

The second handout disbursed was a summary of the HEAPR funding that Morris has received since 2010. Lowell stated that HEAPR funds are normally disbursed every other year. On the handout you can see that in 2011 Morris received funding on the off cycle. Lowell explained that proposals can be submitted every year. Funding depends on what the University actually receives from the state in any given year. FY15 is currently on the off cycle so we are requesting for FY16 with the information included on the handouts.

Questions by the committee after reviewing the information on the handouts were:

- Why is there an upgrade to elevators before new elevators are put in buildings that don't have any (MRC, Camden, Blakely)?
 - UMM needs to get the current elevators up to code and in good running order before we do anything else.
 - UMM did have a consulting company create rough design costs for MRC and Camden and final design costs for Blakely Hall so we have a good estimate on what it will cost for elevators to be installed in those buildings. Currently Education does not have any plans because Blakely is planned to become an academic building in the near future.

- Another thing that needs to be taken into consideration when looking to add elevators or making changes to our mall buildings, is the that most of the buildings are historical buildings. The Interiors Office and Historical Society have rules on keeping either the inside of the buildings the same or the outside of the buildings the same (original). We are not allowed to change both the inside and outside of a historical building. Discussions continue on this topic.

Lowell did confirm that the Briggs Library renovation on the first floor will be going ahead with the plan. This renovation will include moving Academic Assistance, test rooms, study rooms, tutoring rooms down to the first floor. These renovations will be programmatic and funded by Facilities Management and the Dean's office.

Next Lowell provided a handout on the President's Legislative Proposal - Biennial Budget. Included in this proposal is the continuation of the resident tuition freeze, programmatic funding (less in HEAPR funding in the years this is requested), health care funding (which would help UMM with medical research database access), and lastly funds to strengthen communities through Minnesota. Lowell stated that if the strengthening community's part is funded, UMM will need to come up with a proposal for some of the funds. Currently there is a Clean Energy Hub being discussed with the City of Morris on having solar gardens around the city. This would empower citizens of Morris to view their energy foot prints then if interested, they would be able to buy a solar panel and energy made from that panel would come off their energy bill. This would be UMM's first proposal if this initiative was funded. This proposal would also include business/industry solar use also.

3. Future Meetings:

It was decided to cancel the meeting for Friday, March 6th. On March 20th we will discuss entrepreneurial options-raising funds for campus. On April 3rd the committee will discuss the contingency polity, and on April 17th will be a Budget/Compact discussion.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting is March 20th, 2015 in the Moccasin Flower room at 9:30 am.