

University of Minnesota Morris Digital Well

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Planning Committee

Campus Governance

10-11-2022

Planning minutes 10/11/2022

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Planning Committee
October 11, 2022 11:40-12:40
Meeting Number 3
Zoom

Members present: Mark Collier (chair), Emma Kloos, Stephen Crabtree, Bill Zimmerman (non-voting), Bryan Herrmann (non-voting), Keni Zenner, Daleney Teske, Sam Lindholm, Amalia Galvan, James Wojtaszek, Elliot James

Members absent: Stacey Aronson (non-voting)

Minutes: Reviewed September 20, 2022 minutes. Motion to accept minutes unanimously approved.

Spooner Hall Naming Update

Herrmann provided the group with an update regarding Spooner Hall's naming review as stipulated by the 75-year sunset provision required of honorary building naming. Steve Gross, Associate Professor of History and Director of the University of Minnesota Morris Archives, completed a report of Spooner for the committee's review. The Chancellor is bringing this report forward to the Planning Committee to task the committee with a naming review (deadline of November 14th). A review would comprise of a careful analysis of Gross's report of Spooner, and deciding if, based on that information, the committee deems the honorary name worthy of indefinite continuation or normal continuation (in both cases, a formal nomination and dossier would need to be assembled), or, if the name of the building should not be retained. If the building name is not retained, naming nominations would go through the normal Morris Campus process (philanthropic or honorary).

Collier expressed concern over the deadline and also wondered whether this review was under the purview of the planning committee. Herrmann explained that the situation is challenging because someone would need to nominate the name Spooner to continue, but because the building was named so long ago, there are few to no people around who knew Spooner personally, which is why the Planning Committee is being consulted on this front.

Wojtaszek commented that this may not be a time-consuming project if the name proves to be noncontroversial. Collier responded that even if the name is not controversial, it is tied to a time when the campus was an agricultural school. He added that it may be outdated unless we want to honor the campus's history.

Crabtree commented that after a quick review of the document, nothing stands out as problematic. It seems Spooner worked to help establish the campus contributing time, energy, money and land.

Herrmann stressed that the schedule to work on this project is tight. November 15 is the next planning committee meeting, and Campus Assembly meets November 29. A subcommittee would need to volunteer to the task of evaluation, decision, and possible compilation of a dossier. The question is: does the write-up of Spooner show that this person rises to the level of an honorary building naming? Or does the committee feel strongly enough that the name should be discontinued, in which case the name would go back through normal nomination processes.

Herrmann will try to get an extension on the deadline through the All University Honors and Awards Committee, but the extension would not be significant.

Crabtree, Wojtaszek and Herrmann agreed to serve on a subcommittee to reevaluate the honorary naming and write a nomination dossier if they deem the name appropriate, or compile evidence as to why the building should be renamed.

Campus Fun Space Conversation

Informal polling of staff and faculty resulted in some more concrete ideas for fun spaces/events on campus (see below). Collier asked the student representatives about the best ways to garner student input. Teske and Lindholm agreed that the Committee would likely receive higher levels of student feedback by using a form (google form or qualtrics) than by inviting students to participate in a meeting, although both options combined would be ideal.

Collier spoke with Tony Nemmers, Sodexo General Manager, who had several ideas for fun campus events partnered with Sodexo (e.g., "wing night). Herrmann clarified that any *capital* remodeling is at the cost of the University (e.g., TMC or Dining Hall remodeling).

Zimmerman polled his colleagues who believe that society, family lives, and priorities have all changed. Additionally, past efforts like these have sometimes stratified groups further.

Zenner noted that many of the ideas for fun campus spaces exist in the community too and questioned whether we should shift the focus to some of the social structures and supports that would make those things more accessible within the community as opposed to building something new on campus (i.e., bonfire at Pomme de Terre for new staff).

Crabtree echoed this sentiment that we could make use of the town around us and foster relationships with not only campus community but with the town community.

Fun Space Ideas:

1. Host a recurring FUN all faculty/staff activity during community hour (say the 1st tues every month). Prizes for incentives?
 - a. Bean bag league
 - b. Food trucks
 - c. Puzzle competitions
 - d. Trivia
 - e. Wine tasting/education? (rolling forks, carlos creek)
 - f. Anything that's not scholarly
 - g. Board game tournament
 - h. Bingo
2. Campus pub
3. Playground equipment
4. Childcare during events if outside of working hours
5. Tailgating or a faculty/staff group that congregates before sporting events
6. Community hour is good but also right after work (4:30-6) so that people can stay on campus
7. Faculty/staff service project

8. Bowling
9. Lunchtime walks
10. Happy hour/meals at area restaurants after work

Respectfully submitted:
Emma Kloos