Facilities Committee, June 12, 2008

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Mr. Rabon called the Facilities Committee meeting to order on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at 3 p.m.

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to approve the minutes of the Facilities Committee meeting held on April 3, 2008. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carter, and passed unanimously.

Dr. DeCenzo updated the members on a possible Myrtle Beach location. It is the old Academy of Arts, Science and Technology (AAST) property. The rent is $100,000 a year. However, if the taxes could be abated of approximately $60,000 a year, that amount would be deducted from the rent. The net rent would be approximately $40,000 a year. This is a 56,000 sq. ft. building and needs some renovation.

Mr. Parker made a motion that the Facilities Committee recommend to the Board of Trustees for Coastal Carolina University to pursue the lease of property located on 79th Avenue N. in Myrtle Beach (the old AAST property). Mr. Carter seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Rabon told the members about another possible Myrtle Beach location. Meetings have been held with Horry County Council and the Airport Commission and they have agreed to give an 11,000 sq. ft. building and land located on the former Myrtle Beach Air Force Base to Coastal. However, this requires FAA approval.
Mr. Garland updated the members on parking spaces and stated that the Student Housing Foundation had given Coastal permission to clear some land on the Elvington property which will accommodate 300-320 parking spaces. Bumper pads have been ordered to place on the old University Boulevard road bed for approximately 150 parking spaces. A lease is in the process of being obtained from the Coastal Educational Foundation for 3.5 acres adjacent to the Student Health Center for a permanent asphalt parking lot adding 275 parking spaces. When work begins on the Fieldhouse, approximately 150 parking spaces will be lost during the construction.

Mr. Brown asked about the plans for making Chanticleer Drive one way. Dr. DeCenzo stated that the City of Conway would not give permission since that would make it difficult to get emergency vehicles onto campus.

Mr. Parker asked if Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) had a similar parking problem. Dr. DeCenzo stated that HGTC had a gravel lot which would accommodate 1,000 cars. Mr. Wilson has offered to have that lot available for Coastal. The difficulty with that lot is having available shuttle transportation. If students residing at University Place would use the shuttle instead of driving to campus, approximately 400-500 parking spaces would become available.

Mr. Garland stated that seven portables located next to the Williams Brice Building would be relocated by the end of the year. One will be relocated next to Indigo House and will be bricked and made into a permanent facility; three portables will be removed from campus; and, three portables will be moved across University Boulevard next to the soccer field.

Ms. Williams described three land swaps which will take place. Coastal will transfer 3.27 acres (old University Boulevard) to the Coastal Educational Foundation and, in turn the Foundation will transfer 5.11 acres (Kingston Hall and the Greenhouse) to Coastal.

The other two land transfers transfer will be between the Department of Transportation, the Foundation and Coastal which involves right-of-ways and easements to the road. This action was approved by the Board in 2003 or 2004, so the road could be relocated for the arena. These deeds were never recorded and the swap did not take place.

Mr. Garland discussed the status of tuition bonding. The Finance Committee members received copies of the Institution Bond Proposal which was submitted to the State Treasurer’s Office and the Resolution. Funds provided through the proposed bond issue will be designated to the following five priority one campus projects: parking and infrastructure, $4 million; addition to Kingston Hall, $3 million; remodeling Kimbel Library into an Information Commons area, $6 million; construction of the R. Cathcart Smith Science Center Annex, $15 million; and construction of an Activity/Recreation Center, $26 million. Five capital projects of the seven previously approved by the Board of Trustees will be addressed in the bond issue. Two projects not included on the list will be funded by the Horry County Higher Education Commission and operating funds.

Mr. Garland distributed a timeline of ongoing campus projects that includes the project estimated start dates and end dates.
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Mr. Brown made a motion that the Facilities Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees to approve the lease from the Student Housing Foundation for the Elvington House in the amount of $15,600 beginning September 15, 2008 and ending September 14, 2009. Mr. Parker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Dr. DeCenzo stated that Dr. Dyer is working with the owners of the Waccamaw Higher Education Center for a price for that building. Lifelong Learning classes are doing well in that facility. Academic classes are being offered at the Georgetown Higher Education Center. HGTC has been invited to make use of classroom space in Georgetown for programs that would represent feeders to Coastal’s degree completion programs. Their classes will begin in Fall 2008, and will be allowed to do this as long as it is not an added expense to Coastal.

Dr. DeCenzo informed the members that higher education institutions are now eligible to participate in the one-cent sales tax. He thanked everyone who worked so hard in this endeavor, and a major debt of gratitude goes to Liston Barfield and Ray Cleary. This legislation will be voted on in November.

Mr. Alford stated that capital project priorities for this proposed one-cent sales tax funding must be submitted to the State by August. These projects also have to be agreed upon between HGTC, the Horry County School Board, and Coastal. Dr. DeCenzo suggested that the Board of Trustees schedule a retreat in July in order to identify capital projects for this possible funding. Coastal’s portion of this one-cent sales tax could be approximately $74 million.

Mr. Alford stated that capital project priorities for this proposed one-cent sales tax funding must be submitted to the State by August. These projects also have to be agreed upon between HGTC, the Horry County School Board, and Coastal. Dr. DeCenzo suggested that the Board of Trustees schedule a retreat in July in order to identify capital projects for this possible funding. Coastal’s portion of this one-cent sales tax could be approximately $74 million.

Dr. Dyer explained that he had been in discussions with the State Forestry Commission concerning the purchase of 10 acres on Highway 544. This property joins Quail Creek Golf Course. The property has an abandoned fire tower on it. **Mr. Parker made a motion that the Facilities Committee recommends to the Board of Trustees for Coastal Carolina University to pursue the purchase of 10 acres located on Highway 544, at a cost of $1,120,000 from the State Forestry Commission.** Mr. Brown seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Rabon stated that Dr. Dyer was also pursuing the purchase of the Colors on Parade building on Century Drive in the Atlantic Center for the Horry County Higher Education Commission for $2.1 million.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Cox for  
Tommy M. Stringer  
Secretary/Treasurer