

Minutes

University Commission UWSP-Marshfield/Wood County

DATE November 14, 2024

TIME 5:00 pm

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Chair Donna Rozar

IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Donna Rozar, Alderperson Mike Feirer, Wood County Board Rep. Al Breu, Wood County Board Rep. Jake Hahn, Alderperson Andrew Reigel, Bookkeeper Ralph Nussbaum, Lead Facilities Supervisor Tom Zink, and UWSP-Marshfield Campus Executive Dr. Anthony Andrews. Others present included Bill Clendenning, Dean Dr. Gretel Stock, Jesse Fish and Olivia Miller. Alderperson Derrek Wehrman was noted as absent. Quorum was established and there were no public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from the August 8th meeting were read and a motion to approve the minutes was made by Al Breu, seconded by Mike Feirer, and unanimously approved.

REPORTS

The year-to-date Register Report and year-to-date Comparing Budget to Actual Expenses were presented by Donna Rozar. Tom Zink noted an increase in boiler expenses by \$11,000 this year. A motion to approve these reports was made by Jake Hahn, seconded by Mike Feirer, and unanimously approved.

The Financial Activity Report was presented by Donna Rozar. Donna asked about paying for the continued mouse problem. Tom noted the mouse problem had improved but pest control would be a continued annual expense. A motion to approve Financial Activity from 08/02/24 to 11/09/24 was made by Al Breu, seconded by Andrew Reigel, and unanimously approved.

Tom Zink presented the Facilities Manager's Report. Tom Zink discussed that the project in the arboretum has been completed. The last culvert bridge is done, the trails are widened, and new gravel has been put down. A big thank you to Dan Umhoefer for covering the cost of the bridge repair. Maurer's roofing has finished the roof over the Laird stairwell and 405 and 409 areas. This was a CIP project. Johnson Controls has not been back to finish the fire panel upgrades yet but should be here within the next two weeks. The kitchen hood was checked by the fire department, and it was determined it needed cleaning which was an added expense this year. This will be an ongoing annual expense moving forward. General maintenance work has been going on with outside bush trimming and general cleanup done

before winter. Boilers and other heating units are all running. Emerald ash beetles have killed the ash trees in the school yard. There are five trees that will need to come down in the spring or winter if it is a mild one. Water softeners in the Felker and Laird buildings are being replaced. The water softeners feed the boilers, which will help with chemicals that need to be added. They also feed the kitchen and showers which will reduce scale buildup. Lights on the exterior of the library (4 total) are being replaced; some are burnt out and some are rusted shut. Both the water softeners and light replacements will be 2024 CIP projects.

Donna Rozar asked about using the remaining CIP funds. Tom Zink noted there will be \$1,546.00 remaining after this year's projects are done. Donna Rozar will inquire about carrying over the remaining CIP funds. The carryover could potentially be used for removing the trees. No further questions were brought to Tom. A motion to approve Tom Zink's Facilities Manager's report on the was made by Al Breu, seconded by Jake Hahn, and unanimously approved.

Dr. Andrews presented the Campus Executive Report. Dr. Andrews noted UWSP-Marshfield was having a bad publicity cycle recently due to the drop in enrollment of high school students that were dual enrolled in college courses. UWSP needed more "seats" for regular full-time traditional college students. However, Dr. Andrews is involved in leading the re-envisioning of the high school dual enrollment programs. Channel 7 News did a TV news report and article to give context about the drop in enrollment. During the interview, Dr. Andrews discussed the need to make room for traditional and non-traditional college students and the increased retention of students this year (12 percent increase). Dr. Andrews is working with Main Campus to create a PR strategy to get the message out about the retention rate and all the positive things happening on campus. Dr. Andrews then presented the news story to the rest of the board.

<https://www.wsaw.com/2024/11/13/uwsp-marshfield-campus-confident-its-enrollment-numbers-despite-earlier-reports/>

Mike Feirer asked about Dr. Andrews, Dr. Gretel Stock or Chancellor Thomas Gibson coming to present to the city council about these messages. Dr. Andrews also gave an update on the soccer fields. Marshfield Parks and Recreation is relinquishing control of the soccer fields. They will no longer be using or maintaining the fields. They will remove the soccer nets and portable toilets as they are owned by the Parks and Recreation Department. Dr. Andrews said they will need to figure out the cost of maintaining the fields by UWSP-Marshfield. Columbus Catholic wants to be in on this conversation due to their use of both the soccer fields and the tennis courts.

Donna Rozar inquired about the condition of the tennis courts. Tom Zink noted the tennis courts are safe to continue using as of right now. There are a few cracks that need to be filled but they still have CIP funds they can use for repair when the time comes (planned for 2027). Tom is getting estimates of the cost to repair and re-do the courts, possibly changing a few of them to be Pickle Ball courts.

Dr. Andrews reported that a new restaurant will be opening on campus tentatively within the next week. The restaurant is the Hungry Hub. The family that runs the new restaurant also owns and operates the Daily Special Food Truck and Mill Creek Gardens.

The Wisconsin Conquerors soccer team will be in Marshfield for another year. They will be playing their indoor league this winter at the Greenheck Turner Community Center in Wausau. They were able to bring over a new coach from Portugal this year. Dr. Andrews gave him a tour of the gym, fitness center, classroom they will meet in and the soccer fields on campus and he was incredibly happy with the facilities and excited about the upcoming season. They have paid for a part of the field maintenance through their program, which takes a portion of the cost away from maintenance, and the fields look to be in terrific condition. Lastly, Dr. Andrews announced the Cultural Fair date for 2025 is Saturday, February 22nd.

Donna Rozar did not have a Chair's Report to present but noted the meeting dates are set for 2025. However, the February meeting date should be February 13th not February 12th.

Minutes approved 2-13-25

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for February 13th, 2024. The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 pm.t