

**City/University Special Projects Fund Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**September 3, 2009**

Members Present: Eileen Meyer, Dalton Henry, Becky Ballard, Jonathan Mahoney, Jeff Koenig, Tom Vontz

Members Absent: Emily Haug, Oscar Montenegro, Jo Brunner

Kansas State University: Cindy Bontrager, Tom Warner

City Administration: Lauren Palmer

Chair Eileen Meyer called the meeting to order at 7:35 a.m.

Introductions were made.

Minutes from the March 24, 2009, meeting and the agenda for the September 3, 2009, meeting were reviewed. Vontz moved approval of both (second by Ballard). The motion was unanimously approved.

Tom Warner presented the request from President Schulz to repurpose \$76,000 of the \$100,000 of approved funds for University Gardens. In 2010, the funds would be used for salary and fringe benefits of the Director of the KSU Gardens. This will maintain the position, and in turn the Gardens, for another year while K-State works through its financial challenges.

Koenig asked about the level of outside visitor attendance. Warner said those figures are not recorded since admission is free, but they estimated 5,000 – 10,000 visitors annually including school groups, weddings, K-State parents, etc. Koenig stated that his chief concern is sustainability. Ballard expressed a concern with deviating from “bricks and mortar” projects, but also saw the value in preserving the University Gardens as a unique asset. Meyer requested that the University Gardens be included in the Committee’s quarterly reports to track progress with a long-term sustainability plan for the Gardens.

Ballard moved approval of the request (second by Vontz). The motion was unanimously approved.

Palmer introduced the request to reallocate funds for crosswalk and sidewalk improvements and explained that most of the changes are related to the completion of the College Avenue sidewalk in 2009. Ballard expressed concern for setting a precedent of altering what is approved by the Committee and Commission. Henry was appreciative of the College Avenue sidewalk being completed this summer in advance of the upcoming football season.

Koenig moved approval of the request (second by Henry). The motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Palmer

Assistant City Manager