

**City/University Special Projects Fund Committee**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**March 28, 2011**

*Note: A brief orientation session was held at 5:41 p.m. for all members.*

Members Present: Chair Jonathan Mahorney, Jo Ann Brunner, Stormy Lee Kennedy, Jeff Koenig, Nate Warren, and Sarah Works

Members Absent: Becky Ballard, Eileen Meyer, and Michael Wesch

Kansas State University: Lynda Bachelor, Cindy Bontrager, Justin Scott

City Administration: Lauren Palmer

Introductions were made.

Chair Mahorney called the meeting to order at 5:49 p.m.

Minutes from the March 22, 2010, meeting were reviewed. Brunner moved approval (second by Koenig). The motion was unanimously approved.

Brunner nominated Ballard for Vice Chair (Koenig second). No other nominations were made. The motion was unanimously approved.

Bontrager provided the Committee with information about the process and details about last year's projects, current projects, and the 2012 funding request. The Committee discussed the projects and asked questions.

**Neighborhood Lighting and Crosswalk Improvements**

Palmer explained that the City will be issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP) for electrical firms to submit design and cost options for pedestrian lighting around City Park. Brunner asked about the status of the \$90,000 programmed in 2011. Palmer explained that these funds would be combined with the 2012 request. If not all funds are used, they will be returned to the Special Projects Fund for reprogramming in future years. Koenig asked about existing electrical conduit. Palmer stated that conduit is basically only available where there are streetlights and is especially limited along Fremont St.

**Campus Emergency Lighting/Bicycle Path Improvements**

No questions were asked.

**Manhattan/K-State Innovation Center Support**

Koenig asked if any work has been done to measure the value of this facility. Palmer responded that NISTAC has performance targets established in its operating agreement for the facility. Those targets are reviewed annually as part of the City's Economic Development Report. Palmer also reported on the status of the pilot space build out project that will add three new laboratories to the building.

## **Emergency Prevention, Coordination and Communication**

Kennedy asked if Alertus beacons will be installed in residence halls. Bontrager stated that the priority is to complete installation in classroom buildings with capacity for 50 or more students. Works comments that the residence halls already have a separate voice-over alarm system.

## **Good Neighbors Program**

Scott provided a description of the program. Koenig asked how the money is spent and Bachelor replied that the majority of funds support salaries for the student coordinators. Programming funds are provided through Hands On K-State. Brunner asked how the program could be sustained since the committee has a guideline not to fund salaries or to fund projects for longer than three years. Palmer stated that the City and University are committed to the program and are exploring alternative funding sources for 2013 and beyond. Bachelor stated the need for ongoing education with the recent adoption of new ordinances (rental inspection program, trash containers, trash nuisances, etc.). Brunner suggested exploring internship options through courses in Leadership Studies; Community and Regional Planning; Social Work, etc. Kennedy asked Scott why he chose to work with Manhattan Good Neighbors. Scott expressed the desire for on-the-job experience with local government and city planning.

## **Transit System Implementation**

Palmer explained the process to date including the completion of the Transit Plan Update and the work of the Transit Implementation Working Group. Plans are in place to initiate a two-route fixed route system beginning in October 2011, pending approval of the funding partners. Many questions were asked about the routes, fares, and use of City-University funds for the service. Koenig and Brunner both remarked on the need for the service given the ongoing growth in Manhattan.

## **Replace Turf and Track in Memorial Stadium**

Works asked about the lifespan of the turf to be installed. Bontrager responded that the previous turf lasted seven years, and the University hopes to expand that timeframe with the new installation. Brunner asked about the use of the stadium and how reservations are made. Bontrager and Works responded that the facility is open to the public and reservations are made via a priority ranking. Koenig asked if turf is more cost effective than installing grass. Warren commented from his experience in athletics that it is expensive to properly maintain grass.

Koenig moved to recommend all projects to the City Commission for inclusion in the 2012 budget (second by Works). The motion was unanimously approved.

Mahorney adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Palmer  
Assistant City Manager