Chairperson Earl Selby called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Larry Ramseyer introduced Douglas Kozma and Kyle Verseman of JJR, LLC to discuss the South Campus site improvements which are part of the Campus Master Plan and proposed for approval at the October regular meeting. Major components of the project are improved student parking, improved campus traffic flow, improvements in stormwater management and the Klauss Drain, and the use of green and sustainable materials and techniques while preserving and creating student learning environments on South Campus.

Mr. Kozma explained that the focus is on people, sustainability and improved use of resources. The stormwater systems need to be brought into compliance with the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, Phase II, and the college is working to improve sustainability of all its systems. Dr. Emrich clarified that Delta’s stormwater system is not directly connected to the Shiawasse Game Refuge. Mr. Kozma indicated that the project will replace too-small culverts, reduce erosion and replace failing pavement. Dr. Emrich asked whether there will be more parking spaces as a result of the project. Mr. Kozma responded that the number of spaces will remain similar but more spaces will be closer to the campus buildings.

Mr. Kozma and Mr. Verseman explained that the project will encourage a more natural flow of water, will reduce 90 degree angles in the Klauss Drain that cause erosion, will use box culverts which are roughly three times the size of the current culverts, and will introduce bioswales as islands in the pavement to clean and slow the flow of water to a wet meadow which will further clean and slow water runoff. Porous bituminous...
pavement will be introduced in one small section of the southwest lot, and shallow swales between farm fields and drains will reduce runoff of fertilizers and pesticides.

Dr. Emrich asked about the impact of snow removal and the effects of ice storms on the porous pavement. Snow removal will be the same but will avoid use of salt, cinders or sand, and it is anticipated there will be less refreezing on the porous surface. Mr. MacKenzie asked about the price differential between the porous pavement and the remaining surfaces, and was told the current price is between 1.2 and 1.5 times the cost of regular pavement.

In response to Dr. Emrich’s question about the appearance of the swales, JJR staff indicated this project would use shorter, less woody plants than have been used in the photos shown of previous projects. Dr. Emrich inquired about approval by the Drain Commissioner, and JJR staff indicated they have met with the Commissioner and Department of Environmental Quality on campus along with Larry Ramseyer. Larry mentioned that FEMA is also involved due to the flood plain, and indicated that the College is also looking for grant assistance with the project. Mr. MacKenzie questioned the cost of proposed bridges and Larry indicated that box culverts were being used at a cost of approximately 1/3 of what a bridge would cost.

Mr. MacKenzie inquired whether improvements to Delta’s storm water flow might negatively affect others downstream. Larry indicated that the project would actually reduce storm water runoff to those downstream. Relocating 100 parking spaces from the flood plain, along with the swales, will reduce the water going into the drain and slow it as it leaves campus. Dr. Lane inquired about the meaning of “cleaning” the water and whether that meant that toxic substances will remain on campus; he indicated a concern about runoff of fertilizer, pesticides and resulting liability from that as well. Mr. Kozma explained the use of the environment as a natural cleansing process.

Mr. MacKenzie inquired about simply repaving the current parking lots at approximately 1/3 the cost of this project. Ms. Lutz and Mr. Ramseyer indicated it would cost between $2.5 and $2.75 million just to repave the lots that were built 30-35 years ago and not updated or repaved since. This project not only improves parking spaces and moves them closer to the buildings, but it also improves the College’s “front entrance”, improves traffic flow, improves lighting, and has a positive environmental impact.

Dr. Emrich said he feels this is a great plan. He felt the College is balancing cost with other responsible considerations. Mr. Stafford felt increasing closer parking capacity at peak hours responds to expressed student concerns; he said he understands Mr. MacKenzie’s cost concerns but feels we will be helping students.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Myles-Sanders, Board Secretary