Board Present: R. Emrich, K. Houston-Philpot, K. Lawrence-Webster, M. Morrissey, M. Nash, M. Rowley, E. Selby, D. Wacksman

Board Absent: D. Middleton


Press Present: J. Becker (Midland Daily News), I. DeVille (Delta Collegiate), J. Hall (WSGW)

Board Chair M. Rowley called the meeting to order at 5:56 p.m.

Larry Ramseyer, Director of Facilities Management opened the meeting with a brief history of the project and planning that has gone into the Saginaw Center Project. He noted that Frank Markley from Paulien & Associates was going to be giving an update on the planning information that was last presented in the Fall of 2014. He also mentioned that Margaret Mosqueda, Vice President of Student and Educational Services along with Reva Curry, Vice President of Instruction and Learning Services would be helping with the presentation.

F. Markley noted that this center has been extensively researched in regards to demographics and the amount of information gathered from the community, economic development and business. He presented student comparison data from Fall of 2015. It shows that students who only take classes at the Ricker Center compared to all other Delta College students are more diverse in their race/ethnicity and on average are older in age. The Ricker Center students also had a lower income, were more dependent on financial aid, and have a lower level of course completion based on credit hours.

It was noted that the population and economic factors between the three counties (Bay, Midland and Saginaw) varied significantly. F. Markley highlighted the population, persons per square mile, high school graduation rates along with persons below poverty level for each county. There are differences in the needs for each county.

Looking at the vision of the new center from an educational perspective includes being unique from the other Delta College centers, having tailored program offerings, being a place with
technologies that enable students, being strategically aligned with local resources and a starting place and continuum for higher education. On the community side, it should be a place-making destination, integrated within the local fabric, a welcoming place for students and the community, embracing the downtown urban form, have a transparency of purpose and also be a safe place that offers a sense of belonging.

A survey of more than 280 community college centers housed within 241 community colleges was taking place as planning began on the Saginaw Center. The goal was to find out what these centers do and why they are an important part of a community college. Through further research four different taxonomies emerged.

- **Outreach Center**: provides access to college exploration, career planning, GED and a connection to community resources; located in underserved areas with lower education completion levels and a high number of first generation students; has a focus on adult and developmental education
- **University or Transfer Center**: large in size and offer a complete transfer degree such as general education; more focused on dual enrollment; students are more likely to attend the center and main campus; serves as a location of convenience for students; has robust general education offerings at the 100 level
- **Advanced Technology Center**: features labs, garages, outdoor storage area along with multi-purpose training areas and equipment demonstration rooms; has a strong connection with local industry; a strong focus on career programs; many have workforce development that provide job-ready candidates for in demand occupations for local employers
- **Corporate or Workforce Center**: career training, professional development, personal enrichment and small business acceleration classes; amenity driven; focus on needs of the local businesses and regional economic initiatives; flexible labs for equipment training; focus on professional development and training as a funding source

Each of these center types have different needs in regards to the types of spaces. The average assignable square feet (ASF) is directly correlated with the type of center taxonomy. The Saginaw Center will be a composite of multiple taxonomies. This will provide the highest utilization of space the greatest potential for enrollment growth.

The Saginaw Center Taxonomy will focus on the following:

- **Outreach Center (60%)**: college readiness/high school transition, developmental education, a robust academic support/enrichment, comprehensive student support services and a focus on nontraditional students
- **Transfer Center (25%)**: dual enrollment, Michigan Transfer Agreement – complete all general education, A. A. Degree completion in future
- **Corporate/Workforce Center (10%)**: business training, credentialing/certification testing
• Technical Center (5%): certificates in health sciences, business, computers and intro occupational courses

F. Markley reviewed the enrollment assumptions. In Fall of 2015 the Ricker Center had 392 students. The maximum capacity for the Saginaw Center would be 1,250 students. They would increase the classroom utilization from 21 hours a week to 25. The current assignable square feet at the Ricker Center is 15,731 and the Saginaw Center would have 24,700 which would be an increase of 57%.

F. Markley noted that the Saginaw Center isn’t being designed so much for our current students as it is for future students. The program plan includes 13 classrooms, a computer laboratory, teaching laboratories and support spaces. Learning commons would house items such as computer kiosks, quiet study area, current periodicals/reference areas, computer workstations, flexible furniture, and presentation or group study rooms.

R. Curry talked about the college’s academic vision for the Saginaw Center. This included the embracing of this unique opportunity that will offer a range of classes from developmental education to transfer. Through the use of collaborative space the interactions of students and faculty will be enhanced. Unique scheduling options will need to be developed along with unique science lab options.

F. Markley talked about the possible layouts for various other areas such as open laboratories; collaborative or group study areas; and office spaces for administration, security, student services and faculty. Also included is a student center/commons area for open lounge seating, a grab & go café, meeting rooms, and vending.

M. Mosqueda talked about the student services vision which included a welcome desk to greet students and guests. It also includes a critical first impression in the lobby area and one stop enrollment services. Staff will be available to offer advising and financial aid as well as counseling/career services to help students identify goals. Staffing models will grow as enrollment changes. They will draw on local and downtown resources already in place.

F. Markley talked about the multipurpose meeting space. This meeting space could be used for corporate/workforce training, community events, student activities, wellness, college events and classrooms. He also talked about central storage and support spaces which will include the server/network room with IT storage, physical plant storage with work bench and a data closet.

Goals related to program adjacencies include a well-defined “front door,” accommodate space for growth within the building, flexibility for program changes, engagement spaces for student and faculty interaction, shared spaces between academic and students services and optimization of all classroom and common spaces. Other goals include high visibility welcome area for students, clustering of student support services, integration of the learning common and academic support areas, quiet and noisy zones, integration of student center and multi-purpose room to enhance student experiences and a vibrant student center.

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Questions were asked in regards to the declining population in Saginaw, the cost or breakeven point for this project, parking issues as well as the ability of room rental.

There being no further business, the dinner meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

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Talisa Brown, Assistant Board Secretary

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Andrea Ursuy, Board Secretary