

**INSTITUTIONAL POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**October 21, 2022**

**Present:** K. Aurelia Ball; Adrian Bautista; Marc Conner, Chair; Xiaoshuo Hou; Michelle Hubbs; Nathaniel Lowell '24; Michael T. Orr; Beth Ann Post; Tarah Rowse; Rodrigo Schneider; Mahesh Shankar; Kurt Smemo, Vice Chair; Joseph Stankovich; Smriti Tiwari; Amy Tweedy; Claire Wang'23; and Carey Anne Zucca.

**Absent:** Jacqueline Conrad, Dwane Sterling; Lori Parks, and Joshua Woodfork.

**Guest:** Director of Facilities Dan Rodecker.

The Meeting was called to order at 10:32 by Chair President Conner.

**1. Approval of meeting minutes from September 23, 2022 and October 7, 2022:**

A motion made to approve the meeting minutes of September 23 and October 7, 2002. With no proposed changes, **the minutes from the September 23 and October 7, 2022 meetings were unanimously approved.**

**2. October Board of Trustees Meeting Update**

President Conner provided an update on the October Board of Trustees meeting, which took place on campus October 12-14 with some committee meetings held virtually the week prior. Student Government Association (SGA) leaders, Admissions Ambassadors, staff, and faculty participated in various committee meetings. It was a good opportunity for students and the Board to meet and discuss campus life. We presented the board with this year's Strategic Action Agenda (SAA) and explained the revisions that IPPC advised. The Strategic Planning Committee reviewed the document and unanimously endorsed it.

At lunch, we discussed the Visions and Values project, including asking Board members several basic questions, such as: "What is unique about Skidmore? What are some of our signature programs? And what are our plans for the future?" We are considering how we share with the community the responses received to the questions. We covered budget updates, which was information that IPPC previously discussed. We also updated the Board on staffing levels and fundraising progress. The Board was updated on progress with the three vice president searches.

The Board is conducting a self-assessment using the consulting firm Spencer Stuart. Consultants from Spencer Stuart observed both committee and full board meetings and gave a short presentation on board governance. Consultants shared that there are two main roles of higher ed boards: to give advice and to provide oversight. They then reviewed the attributes of an effective non-profit board member. They suggested that effective boards are centered on the people represented (skills and expertise), areas of focus (strategy and financials), and processes (committees and information flow).

### **3. Health and Wellness, Fitness and Athletics**

Finally, we presented the Board with the vision and draft plans for the Health and Wellness, Fitness, and Athletics project and concept. As we did at IPPC, we explained that the vision includes a holistic approach to health, incorporating mind, body, and spirit. Our goal is to bring these facilities into one site that incorporates all aspects of student wellness.

We discussed with the Board what was presented in October 2019 and February 2020 compared with the current plans, including funding sources and why we paused construction because of covid-19. We outlined community concerns from three years ago, including lack of sustainability elements, disruption with the Greenberg Child Care Center, and financial and planning prioritization. Three years ago, the Board approved \$16 million in preliminary funding for outdoor tennis, indoor tennis, and the locker room complex. The architects showed the current plans to the Board. Director of Facilities Dan Rodecker outlined for IPPC an overview of the project with the differences from 2019 versus the current plans, which will be designed in accord with the College's Sustainable Construction and Renovation Policy.

During the Board meeting, Dean of Students Adrian Bautista explained that the indoor tennis complex can be used for many purposes including intramural and club activities. He spoke about student support and the residential education model. Next week, Dean Bautista will meet with SGA President Lowell to plan a health and wellness feedback forum for the SGA Senate.

Interim Vice President for Finance and Administration and Treasurer Charles Ingram gave the Board an update on the project costs with \$16.2 million for the original budget now at \$35.5 million due to inflation and a rise in construction costs. Collyer Vice President for Advancement Carey Anne Zucca presented a pyramid of potential donors for health and wellness. She noted that we have many parent donors who are dedicated to this endeavor. She explained they currently have 475 prospective major donors, 758 prospective tennis donors and an additional 15,000 constituents. We currently have 3 "asks" at seven figures, 11 at \$1 million to \$4.9 million, 32 at \$250,000 to \$999,000 and 119 at \$50,000 to \$249,000.

President Conner asked the Board to approve the \$10 million construction cash on hand and to allow us to move forward with some of the project as we fundraise for the remaining parts. The current Health and Wellness, Fitness, and Athletics plan was presented to the Board who approved the plan with the initial funding not to exceed \$10 million to start the outdoor tennis courts and purchase of the building for the indoor tennis courts. In February 2023, the Board will review final versions of the project and be asked to approve funding for the rest of the project.

There were four areas of inquiry from the Board:

- a) They want to see more detailed architectural plans;
- b) The existing Williamson Sports Center does not connect with the new building. It would likely be a multi-million-dollar renovation to bring Williamson up to the same standards as the new facility. Is it possible to connect them in the future?

- c) How does this renovation fit into the larger campus master plan prioritization? The plan did not include renovation for the Williamson Sports Center. Is that something that will now be prioritized with plans developed?
- d) If we fall short of our fundraising goal and then the timeline, how will we complete this project?

IPPC members discussed the plans and concept at length, and expressed appreciation for the Board meeting updates, particularly the details of the building plans.

#### **4. Call for Agenda Items**

No new agenda items were raised

#### **5. Other Business**

No other business was brought forth.

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

*Please inform the President's office of any changes to these minutes.*