

MINUTES OF THE INFORMAL MEETING
of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
November 16, 1972

Present: President Wharton; Trustees Carrigan, Hartman, Huff, Martin, Merriman, Thompson, and Stevens, Trustees-elect Radcliffe and Stack; Provost Cantlon, Executive Vice President and Secretary Breslin; Vice Presidents Muelder, Nonnamaker, Perrin, Scott, and Wilkinson; Messrs. Ballard, Carr, and Wilkie.

Absent: Trustee White.

Meeting with
East Lansing
City Council;
discussions re:

President Wharton opened the Informal Meeting of the Board of Trustees at 7:45 p.m. and announced that the purpose of the meeting would be to discuss items of mutual interest between the Board and the City Council of East Lansing. Dr. Wharton indicated that in the past these periodic meetings between the two bodies have proven beneficial as an important means of keeping both groups abreast of issues of mutual concern.

Capital Outlay

Since the Board of Trustees was hosting the meeting, President Wharton led off by reviewing the MSU capital outlay activities. He discussed the design and projected dates of the new MSU ice arena which will be financed by student football ticket sales. Members of the Council expressed interest in the new facility freeing up the current ice rink for greater public usage. Dr. Wharton also reported on plans for a new performing arts center. He indicated that the exact design, location, and composition of the facility will not be known until planning has been completed. He did point out that the center would be a teaching-performing facility. The University is hoping to secure primarily private funds with some state support to build the much-needed performing arts facility.

Clinical
Sciences Bldg.

Dr. Wharton discussed the current status of MSU's Clinical Sciences Center which will provide permanent clinical-teaching facilities on campus for students in the MSU colleges of human medicine and osteopathic medicine as well as other health-related programs. He added that plans call for a building which can handle some 125,000 patient visits a year. The facility, which is being funded jointly by state and federal governments, is expected to be under construction by September of 1973 with completion scheduled for September of 1975. In answer to questions by several members of the City Council, President Wharton indicated that the Clinical Sciences Center would provide service to members of the community in special cases and on referrals but that it would not compete with local hospitals.

Expansion of
MSU power plant

Executive Vice President Breslin reported on the expansion of MSU's main power plant in order to handle the increased power load required by the new campus facilities, especially in the health-related area. He also reported on the new office building being built next to the Manly Miles Building on Harrison Road. This building will be financed by internal University funds, and plans call for it to be completed by October of 1973.

Transportation
feasibility
study

Mr. Breslin also made a brief presentation on MSU's transportation feasibility study which is being financed by federal funds administered by the State Department of Transportation. He reviewed the immediate and future transportation problems facing the University and the interest in some form of "people-mover" transportation as an alternative to automobiles. Mr. Breslin also mentioned that a tri-county transportation study is underway which is looking at regional transportation problems. President Wharton stated that the principal concern of the University and the City of East Lansing is related to the movement of people both on and off campus and the interaction between the two communities.

President Wharton turned the meeting over to Mayor Wilbur Brookover for the presentation of concerns of the City Council of East Lansing. Several Council members commented on the transportation study by the University and expressed hope that both communities could work together. A brief report was made concerning the Council's citizen committee currently studying East Lansing transportation problems.

Cable
communication
systems

Mayor Brookover made a presentation on East Lansing's plans for a cable communication system and discussed future developments in this area. He mentioned the many opportunities that cable communications provide and possible areas of cooperation between the University and City. President Wharton indicated that MSU was viewing cable communications as an important part of the broader set of higher education objectives and that it should be approached not only as it relates to East Lansing but also how MSU's activities relate to its statewide educational activities using such facilities.

Rental housing
ordinance

Mayor Brookover discussed the activity of the City Council relative to the development of a new ordinance on rental housing. He indicated that the ordinance was still being developed and that there had been University input in the process.

Waste Water
Treatment
facility

The two groups also discussed the current status of the waste water treatment facility expansion by the City of East Lansing and the important hookup with MSU's new Water Quality Management Project. City Manager Jack Patriarche reported on some of the delays in this project but indicated that construction was underway. He also discussed future problems in the area of state requirements for improved handling of storm water by the City of East Lansing. He stated that such improvements will be very costly and that an application for state funds had been filed.

Student voters

There was a brief discussion concerning problems in handling the larger numbers of student voters in the last election. City Manager Patriarche reviewed the difficulties in providing proper voting equipment and in ordering enough voting supplies. He indicated that plans were underway to improve this situation in time for the next election.

President Wharton adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.