

1979

Board of Trustees Physical Plant Committee May 22, 1979

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UNIVERSITY OF MAINE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 22, 1979
Bangor, Maine

APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Date: _____
By: _____

Clerk

PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE

PRESENT:

Bernard Carpenter, Chairman; Ellen Platz, John Robinson, Thomas Monaghan (part of the meeting). Student representative Sandra Bovard. Faculty representatives: John Coupe, Walter Lichtenstein, Stephen Moran, John Pearce, and Robert Sloan. Staff: Richard Eustis, William Sullivan, Robert Binswanger, Russell Smith, Kenneth Allen, Donald Beattie, Roland Burns, Einar Olsen, John Blake, and Sumner Bernstein. Wayne Rilly, press.

Chairman Carpenter convened the meeting.

The Minutes of March 27, 1979 were approved as circulated.

Acquisition of Property, UMF. After a brief discussion, and on motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees authorize the

acquisition of the property at 11 Perkins Street, Farmington, subject to staff approval of the deed and that the Board further authorize the transfer of funds from the Residence and Dining Reserve Account to an appropriate Plant Fund Account to cover the acquisition costs.

Land Lease to Hillal Foundation, UMO. The recommendation was withdrawn.

Alterations to Robie Andrews Hall, USM. Director of Physical Facilities, Richard Eustis, briefed the Committee on the project to modernize the toilet/shower facilities. On motion made and seconded, it was

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees authorize a project to alter and improve toilet/shower facilities in Robie/Andrews Hall for a cost not to exceed \$44,100 and that funds be transferred to an appropriate Plant Fund Account from the USM Residence and Dining Reserve to supplement the unexpended balance of the original Robie/Andrews renovation allocation.

Naming of Physical Facility. Trustee Robinson inquired about the rationale for recognition of an employee who had only thirteen years service. Mr. Eustis explained that the employee in question, Mr. Glen Littlefield, has been closely associated with the building and has been a mentor to both the faculty and students of the Industrial Education and Technology Program. On motion of Mr. Robinson, which was seconded, it was

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VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees name the student lounge located in the Industrial Education Center at Gorham "Littlefield Lounge" in honor of Glen Littlefield, for his 13 years of dedication and service to the faculty, staff and students of the Industrial Education and Technology Program.

Easement of Utility Lines - City of Old Town. After a brief discussion, it was moved, seconded and

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees authorize the granting of a twenty (20) foot wide easement to the City of Old Town across University owned property in Old Town subject to staff approval of the easement agreement.

Alford Arena. Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Eustis briefed the Committee on a request from the Orono campus to install 800 additional seats in the Alford Arena. The original plan was to build two sections in each corner of the north end of the building at a cost of \$131,000, omitting the center section at this time. It is now believed that it would be economically advisable to approve the construction of the whole project. The funding would come from the University of Maine Foundation, the UMO President's Discretionary Fund and from a loan of \$40,000 to be repaid by proceeds from the additional seating and from private donations to the University for Alford Arena. Trustee Platz asked if it would be possible to acquire most of the \$40,000 by private donations. Mr. Sullivan replied that that was a possibility, but the loan would get the project started and the donations that would be forthcoming would reduce the face amount. There followed a brief discussion of the income producing activities at the arena. Student representative Sandra Boward asked where the loan would come from and Mr. Sullivan answered that the University would borrow wherever it could get the best terms. On motion made and seconded, and with Ms. Boward dissenting, it was

VOTED: to recommend that the Board of Trustees authorize the construction of a balcony in the Alford Arena at UMO to provide approximately 800 additional seats at a cost not to exceed \$171,000. Funding for this project will be provided from the following sources: \$107,000 to be transferred on July 11, 1979 from the U of M Foundation, \$23,600 from the UMO President's Discretionary Fund and from a \$40,000 loan to be made for this purpose. The repayment of the loan including interest, shall have first call on proceeds generated by the additional seating, or from other private donations to the University for the Alford Arena.

504 Report. Mr. Eustis briefed the Committee on Section 504. This briefing was requested at the last meeting by Ms. Boward. He told the Committee that the regulations speak strongly to the issue of program accessibility. It was questioned if perhaps one campus could be made as architecturally barrier free and as accessible as possible with all handicapped students required to

attend this campus. Mr. Eustis replied that each campus must comply with the law and that handicapped students must have the same opportunities as non-handicapped. Mr. Eustis explained that the physically handicapped include the sight- and hearing-impaired as well as the semi-ambulatory and non-ambulatory, and all must be accommodated in terms of their special needs. With the incorporation of more physically handicapped students into the public school system, he foresees an even greater demand for more advanced educational opportunities which will require a more immediate solution to the problem of accessibility. Mr. Eustis showed slides of the various campuses illustrating the types of ramps, etc., used to make buildings accessible. After viewing the slides, the Committee concurred that although much has been done in order to comply with the regulations by the 1980 deadline, much remains to provide full program accessibility. The Committee agreed that compliance will be a major undertaking and that there are few easy satisfactory solutions. Chairman Carpenter requested that Section 504 requirements be reviewed again by the Committee with emphasis on campus "self-evaluation."

Other Business. There was brief discussion of University compliance with municipal ordinances. Mr. Monaghan recalled the controversy connected with a proposed change from married- to single-student housing in a University owned facility in Old Town, two years ago. He wanted to be certain that the appropriate town or city planning board is consulted prior to the undertaking of any new construction or modification of existing operations in off-campus facilities, and he inquired about the need for a policy statement in this area. Mr. Eustis and members of the Committee reported that the University intends to function as a good citizen and that all municipal ordinances and laws are observed.

Trustee Monaghan asked the Chairman to have the Committee explore the feasibility of selling each of the former Portland residences, many of which have been converted to office space for University personnel. Mr. Monaghan said that he had questioned the advisability of the University owning such residential property earlier and that nothing had been resolved. He said he would like to see a recommendation for Board consideration to dispose of the property and to provide alternative space for University personnel.

Mr. Eustis reported that the IBM Corporation is developing a program with the state vocational rehabilitation educators for the training of computer operators. BCC, USM and Husson college have been named as potential sites. The final location will be decided sometime this summer.

In answer to an inquiry by Ms. Bovard, Mr. Eustis stated that three buildings on the BCC campus to which the University holds title are still being used by the Federal Government. Procedures were initiated last fall to release the buildings to the University, but it is expected to be a long process.

Adjournment.

Sandra F. Johnson
Sandra F. Johnson
for
Joanne R. Magill
Clerk of the Board