Committee on Facilities

Meeting minutes from 04/08/2024

Committee Members Present:

Benjamin, Jeffrey (Ex-Officio), Bilskie, Matthew Boley, Bynum Calabria, Jon (Chair) Clark, Jeffrey (Ex-Officio) Darden, Gwynne (Ex-Officio) Ellenberg, Thea Freeman, Bud Fleming, Virginia Gibbs, Jeremy Heckman, Bernadette Lechtreck, Karl Lofton, Michelle McCrackin, M.A. Mundy, Mathew Redmon, Melissa Sial, Ashfaq Turner, John Weaver, Kyleigh

Committee Members Absent/Excused:

Burke, Kevin Cook, Michelle (Ex-Officio) Easley, Chas LeGette, Casie Jue, Matthew Sharma, Ankush Shumway, Christopher

## Agenda

- A. Welcome and Introductions
- B. Approval of the minutes from the November 7, 2023, meeting
- C. Action Items
- D. Information Items
  - 1. Rail Corridor Update
  - 2. Building Energy Update
  - 3. Other Updates
- E. Old Business
- F. New Business
  - 1. Selection of Chair for next term
- G. Closing Action Items
- H. Adjournment

## Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order after a quorum was achieved.

2. The minutes from February 12, 2024 meeting were approved.

3. Gwynne Darden provided an update on the initial phase of planning for rail corridor, which in future could provide an express connection, like via buses, along East Campus Road. This is a long-term project, which will first require UGA to take ownership of the rail track.

4. The committee received a requested update from Jeff Benjamin on the status of energy use and reduction strategies for buildings and grounds. His report showed a decrease in some equipment purchase costs when compared to last year, a reduction in maintenance costs, and co-benefits such as reduced emissions and harmful noise for both operators and the campus users. Currently, ~5% of the ~320 FMD vehicles are electric; UGA currently has ~3,500 vehicles.

A question was asked about installing more solar panels to supplement existing solar electricity generation on campus. The inexpensive energy costs in Georgia, greater than one year contracting requirements, and costs associated with installation (i.e., structural changes to roofs etc.) render additional solar panels economically unviable at this point, though those conditions may change.

5. The chair will poll members to select a new chair.

6. The Meeting adjourned at 3pm. The next meeting will occur in Fall Semester 2024.