

## Rochester Higher Education Development Committee

Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2006

Time: 7 a.m. – 10 a.m.

Location: Edina Realty Rochester, 1301 Salem Road SW, Rochester, MN

### Members Present:

Al DeBoer

Drew Flaada

Dr. Wendy Shannon

Marilyn Stewart

Dr. Claire Bender

Dwight Gourneau

Dr. David Metzen

### Member not present:

Jayne Rankin

Al Berning

Bob Hoffman

Michael Vekich

### Others Present:

Dr. Cheryl Maplethorpe

Don Supalla

Dr. David Carl

Dick Westerlund

Senator Nancy Braatas

Alison Good

Matt Stolle

Rev. Bruce Buller

Gail Sauter

Jim Clausen

Faith Zimmerman

Stan Cram

Don Sudor

Jay Hesley

Sandy Keith

Jay Lee

Claudia Knowlton-Chike

Manuel M. Lopez

Dr. Christine Barajas

Senator Dave Senjem

Kathy Meyerle

Arnie Bigbee

Erin Slnen

Nathan Tesch

Dr. Patricia Simmons

Joe Marchesani

Representative Andy Welti

Tim Gilsrud

Dr. Nirmala Kodigal

Carol Kamper

George B. Thompson

Representative Fran Bradley

Merlin J. Ricklefs

Dave Weber

Elena Grimm

Sea Stachera

Barb Schlarfer

Susan Heegaard

Leigh J. Johnson

Dr. Valerie Pace

Dr. Fred Nobrega

Dr. Joe Gibilisco

Mary Jacquart

Gary Smith

7:08 a.m. Chair Stewart called the meeting to order.

The January 6 minutes were approved.

Chair Stewart reviewed coming important dates that the Committee should be aware of such as Rochester Day at the Capital and the presentation of the report to the University of Minnesota Board of Regents on February 10 and GRAUC Celebration Day on March 16.

The Committee reviewed the amount of money that has been spent so far by the Committee; \$93,627 is remaining to date of the \$200,000 given to the committee to support their work.

Consultant Essex presented the report to the Committee. She said it was a complex process.

Chair Stewart pointed out that Appendix G had the letters of support.

Consultant Essex reviewed the executive summary on pages 2 and 3. The table of contents is an overview. First, why it is important; second, the vision statement and recommended programs; third the governance section; then site and facility needs, and finally the funding requirements. There will be contributions from the city and the county. She thanked all the Committee members for their comments.

Chair Stewart pointed out that there were letters of support from the two public higher education systems.

Member Flaada made a motion to approve the report. Member DeBoer seconded. It was approved unanimously.

The Committee thanked Consultant Essex. She replied that it was a respectful team effort.

Member DeBoer referenced page 24 of the report regarding the Technology Commercialization Office.

Member DeBoer made a motion to authorize an expenditure of up to \$350,000 for the University of Minnesota Rochester to establish a Technology Commercialization Office consistent with the recommendation made on page 24 of the Rochester Higher Education Development Report to the Governor and Legislature January 2006.

Page 24 of the report says “The Technology Commercialization Office will serve as the catalyst to foster the development of public and private biosciences partnerships and spur economic development in parallel with the simultaneous development of the academic programming at the University of Minnesota Rochester. Public and private partnerships are envisioned between and among bioscience and biotechnology companies, Mayo/University of Minnesota Genomics research partnership, Mayo/IBM informatics initiatives, new start-up ventures, move-in companies, and the University of Minnesota Rochester.”

Motion was seconded by Member Gourneau.

Member DeBoer said that President Bruininks referenced the creation of this office when he spoke to the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee. The project is not just a higher education project, it is an economic generator and this new office is a key link.

Chair Stewart said the Committee was not just studying, it was doing.

Member Metzen asked where the money was coming from.

Member DeBoer reminded the Committee members that the 2005 Legislature appropriated \$3,200,000 toward this effort and that \$3,000,000 was to be used to jump start implementation of the Committee's Vision. The money is currently held by the Office of Higher Education.

The motion passed unanimously.

Member Shannon moved to authorize the expenditure of \$2,650,000 for the University of Minnesota Rochester to support engineering, technology and health care sciences signature academic program development and delivery as recommended on page 25 of the Rochester Higher Education Development Report to the Governor and Legislature January 2006.

Page 25 of the report says that all programs are to have components of entrepreneurship, innovation and leadership. The programs listed are Biomedical Informatics, Computational Biology, Biomolecular Engineering, Computer Gaming/Simulation, Nanotechnology, Allied Health, Nursing, Pharmacogenomics, Pharmacotherapeutics, Genomics, Molecular Biology.

Motion was seconded by Member Gourneau.

Member Shannon and Flaada said that they would be making a presentation to the University of Minnesota regarding these new programs.

Member DeBoer thanked the legislature for authorizing the seed money to get the project started.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chair Stewart reminded the Committee that the next meeting was February 3. Simon Tripp will be at that meeting. A contract is being negotiated with Mr. Tripp for the Economic Impact study.

Member Flaada asked how Mr. Tripp's work will overlap with the legislature.

Staff Maplethorpe said that the legislature starts on March 1.

Member DeBoer would like periodic reports from Mr. Tripp. They might be particularly helpful when the legislature is in session.

Staff Maplethorpe said she would try to negotiate periodic reports into the contract.

Member Gourneau asked who would get copies of the Committee's report.

Chair Stewart said they would be available to more people at the Governor's press conference at 11:00 a.m.

Staff Maplethorpe said the report would be sent to all people who were on the Rochester electronic distribution list and available through a link on the Office of Higher Education web site page for the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee.

Member Metzen thanked Chair Stewart for her work. Chair Stewart said the Committee members were a dedicated group.

Member DeBoer said the Committee members may hear other than “yes” in phase 2 of the project.

7:40 a.m. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Reverend Buller thanked the Committee. He said that some people may not like the downtown campus but he thought it was a good idea.

Senator Braatas thanked the Committee and congratulated them on good work.

Fran Bradley said the project was like MISSION IMPOSSIBLE because the timeline was so tight. He said they all know there will be resistance but this is an important economic engine for the state.

Chair Stewart reminded the group that if Minnesota doesn't make this investment now, other will get ahead of Minnesota. Minnesota is behind now.

Merlin Ricklefs said he wrote a commentary in the Rochester Post Bulletin that supported this project. It is important to the state.

Don Sudor said this started with Future Scan. There has been a lot of work on this topic. This is a historic day. He thanked the Committee. He said the goals are direct and we will make this happen.

Chair Stewart said that she had boxes of reports on this topic. There was a 1972 report that made similar recommendations to the Committee's report.

Claudia Knowlton-Chike said the GRAUC would help support the project.

Andrew Weiti said the project could have been a competitor to Winona State University and Rochester Community and Technical College but it is not. It will be a benefit to Rochester and to the whole state.

Don Supalla, President of Rochester Community and Technical College said that he was an irritating voice but the Committee included Rochester Community and Technical College and he supports the report. He said the report was fabulous. He was looking forward to working together on the project.

Chair Stewart thanked all for their comments.

7:55 a.m. Meeting Adjourned.

**FUTURE MEETINGS** will be 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Friday, February 3, 2006.

**POSSIBLE ADDITIONAL MEETINGS** will be 7 a.m. to 10 a.m. Friday, February 24; Friday, March 17; Friday, March 31 **at Edina Realty Rochester, 1301 Salem Road SW, Rochester, MN.**