

Hearnes Center Committee
2:00 p.m., Monday, October 29, 2001
309 Hearnes Center

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Introductions

The following people introduced themselves at the meeting: Leon Schumacher (Co-Chair); Thomas Martz, Lee Henson, Joy Millard, Peter Fields, Chester Moyer, Reem Abeidoh, Kathy Murray, Eric Niewoehner, Tim Hickman, Sam Babaloo.

The following individuals indicated they had scheduling conflicts and could not attend: Ian Worthington, Geetha Komatireddy, Kerry McDonald, Diane Dahlmann.

2. Review Charge of the Committee

Leon Schumacher reviewed the charge of the Hearnes Center Committee and expressed if members have issues they feel need to be addressed to please bring them to the table. No issues were presented at that time.

3. Review and Approval of May 21, 2001 Minutes

Thomas Martz moved that the Minutes be approved as read. Reem Abeidoh seconded the motion; motion carried.

4. Hearnes Center Facility Overview - Tim Hickman

a. *History*

Hearnes Center Director, Tim Hickman reported that FY00/01 was a good year and they stayed in the black overall. Effective July 1, 2000 the Hearnes Center, which was once a division of Administrative Services, moved under the direction of Intercollegiate Athletics.

5. Old Business

a. *Update on lighting in the Hearnes Center - Tim Hickman*

Tim Hickman reported the lighting project was put on hold until after a decision was made on the new arena. He will begin the planning process for this project.

b. *Sound System in the Hearnes Center - Tim Hickman*

Director Hickman reported the sound system has been totally overhauled costing roughly \$65,000. Funds from Student Fees went towards this system. The cost estimate of a brand new sound system was over \$300,000. Tim expressed his approval of the new system and that the distribution of sound has improved 100%.

c. *BB King Blues Festival*

Tim Hickman updated the committee on the Festival at the Amphitheatre at Mizzou. Tim explained the show went on without a hitch and a little under 4400 people attended. There were many systems already in place used at the Amphitheatre such as electricity in the football locker rooms making the venue

low cost to host a show.

Lee Henson expressed his approval of the venue but the beer gardens being a bit difficult to get around in. Having to stay in the beer gardens with such close quarters made it difficult to enjoy.

Director Hickman explained that due to the BB King Blues Festival being the first show to sell alcoholic beverages he and his staff were very conservative. The beer gardens and locations of alcohol sales will be reviewed before the next Amphitheatre show.

Reem Abeidoh asked to discuss the use of the Amphitheatre by MSA. Ms. Abeidoh wanted to clarify the Director of the Hearnes Center would work not only with the Concert Series but MSA as well to co-promote shows at the Hearnes Center and Amphitheatre. Tim Hickman expressed that other University functions are welcome to be involved. This also includes the use of the Hearnes Center; free rental once per semester is granted to MSA. All services are charged out however, such as staffing, box office, etc.

d. *Pedestrian bridge across Providence - Tim Hickman*

Tim updated the committee on the pedestrian bridge across Providence Road is underway with a grant from the Missouri Department of Transportation and the Athletic Department. This bridge will be the means to connect all Intercollegiate Athletics Sports Parks. The bridge will be ADA accessible and will be completed for the 2002/2003 Football Season.

Lee Henson inquired about the possibility for an overpass across Stadium Boulevard from Mick Deaver. No plans for this in the near future.

e. *Update on other building renovations - Tim Hickman*

The Hearnes Center has undergone many renovations over the summer including a massive amount of painting in the arena, fieldhouse, hallways, vomitories, etc. New signage outside of North Hearnes identifying the Hearnes Center. Steps in the arena have been painted black and bench seating was installed at the West side where students have been moved. There are new shot clocks and video is currently being installed on the message boards costing \$140,000.

6. **New Business**

a. *Number of Meetings each semester - Leon Schumacher*

Dr. Schumacher conversed with the committee members about one meeting per semester and if the members approved.

Reem Abeidoh felt she would like to be more informed about what is going on at the Hearnes Center and with one meeting per semester she couldn't contribute to the committee. She would like to know what is going on before it happens rather than hearing an update after the fact.

Peter Fields suggested that he and Tim Hickman have small sessions with those students interested in which they will answer any questions regarding current happenings at the Hearn Center. Many committee members are aware of old and new business because it is their 2nd or 3rd year on the committee, however, for some students this may be their first year. They may or may not know what the committee has accomplished or what needs to be accomplished.

b. *Update on New Arena - Tim Hickman*

Tim Hickman updated the committee on the new arena. The Arena Committee is currently reviewing the design which was initiated in 1997. This is the "wish list" phase in which arena committee members are expressing what they want/need in the new arena. This phase will last through December 4. The Arena Committee will then start the detail planning after that point. Seating capacity will be in the low 15,000 which is the current trend in seating with the size of market. Hearn Center capacity is 13,500.

Lee Henson inquired about access to the new arena and if there were any plans to make changes of current access. Tim Hickman updated that a turning lane may be put in off Providence Road and the possibility of widening South Hearn Drive.

c. *Use of Hearn Center after new Arena has been constructed - Tim Hickman*

Olympic sports will stay in the Hearn Center and majority of the sports offices will stay as well. Regarding events, many factors will determine which facility the event will be held in such as size, date of the event, etc.

Eric Niewoehner asked if there was a perspective plan for the Hearn Center once the new arena is built. Tim Hickman responded to this inquiry and due to no funds being available, no plans are being made at this time. Due to the rooms being so steep, being far away from campus, and the walls not totally soundproof, the lecture halls could not be used as a classroom.

Leon Schumacher commented on the large size of the Hearn Center arena and if there were any possibilities to make it smaller. The arena can be curtained off to reduce seating to about 4800.

7. **Other Business**

a. *Safety Concerns presented by Thomas Martz*

One concern voiced by Thomas was the steps being very steep and why they decided to paint them black. During a concert or event it is hard enough for some to get down the steps and he felt them being painted made it more difficult.

Tim Hickman reported a reflective coat of paint is already been painted on some of the stairs and will be completed on all stairs shortly. This will reflect to make the steps more visible. Unable to add hand rails due to the steps being so narrow as well as the high cost.

Thomas Martz moved to have the PA Announcer at events announce that those seated in A Section need to go up one level and exit the building at the B Section. Although Ushers are at each section trying to direct patrons to the exit, some still try to exit on the A Level in which they cannot. Sam Babaloe seconded the motion; motion carried.

Peter Fields responded to this concern because he felt if there was a message announced around the 4th quarter of a basketball game it would seem like we were urging patrons to leave before the game ended. Although this announcement may seem as though it would help patrons to know where to exit the building, if they do not listen to the usher talking directly to them, he didn't feel like making an announcement would help.

Lee Henson commented that he appreciates the attempt to help patrons but numerous A Section ticket holders have been sitting in that section for quite some time and should know how to exit the building.

b. *Extra Security Measures*

Kathy Murray asked if any extra security measures are being performed since the September 11, 2001 attack. Tim Hickman responded that the security measures already in place are being tightened up. There has always been an emergency evacuation plan in place as well as how to handle a bomb threat.

c. *Information on Current Happenings at Hearnese Center:*

This information can be found at <http://www.hearnescenter.com> and <http://www.mutigers.com>.

8. **Adjourned**