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Vol. 21, No. 3 February 22, 1990

MEMO TO: The University Community

FROM:

Earl Lazerson

SUBJECT: Golf Course Information

In a Blue Bulletin to the University Community on November 27, 1989, I announced public hearings and informational sessions would be held on December 6 and 7 regarding alternative sites being considered for a golf course at SIUE. I also indicated I would keep you apprised on developments following the hearings. Attached is a memorandum I am sending today to Professor Carol Keene, Chair of the University Planning and Budget Council, stating actions that have been taken and making further recommendations for consideration by the UPBC. I will continue to keep the University Community informed on this matter as the review process proceeds.

Attachment

Office of the President

February 22, 1990

MEMO TO: Carol Keene, Chair

University Planning and Budget Council

FROM:

Earl Lazerson

SUBJECT: Alternative Locations for Proposed SIUE Golf Course

At its meeting in November, 1989, the University Planning and Budget Council recommended that I delay further action on Land Use Plan 5A, which the Council had approved in October, until consideration could be given to alternative sites for a proposed golf course.

In response to that recommendation, I took the following actions:

- Identified potential alternative sites (attached);
- 2. Held hearings for faculty, staff, students, and the public regarding the alternative sites;
- Sought professional advice regarding the suitability of the alternative sites;
- 4. Developed an inventory of the current uses of each site.

Land Use Plan 5a designated Site I for possible construction of a golf course with the understanding that portions of the site would be reserved for use by the Department of Biological Sciences. As you know, a golf course was to be designed to avoid those specific areas. Subsequent to approval of Land Use Plan 5a by UPBC, the Department of Biological Sciences, in a memorandum to me dated November 14, 1989, identified more extensive interests in Site I. In addition, the public hearings resulted in expressions of interest in portions of Site I for other purposes such as hiking, walking, and running.

Professional consultants were asked to examine five possible sites for a golf course. They determined that Sites II and IV were financially marginal and had other difficulties such that both should be eliminated from further consideration. They designated Site I to be the best of the five alternatives. Site III, while a second choice, is a feasible location for a viable course. Site V, a combination of Sites II and III, is feasible as well.

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In view of these findings, the concerns of the Department of Biological Sciences, and the testimony presented at the hearings, I have eliminated Site I from further consideration. Further, I recommend that we develop and issue a request for proposals (RFP) for construction of a public golf course on Site III (which could include an adjoining portion of Site II), with the exact area to be used for the course to be based upon the response to the RFP. If the RFP results in our receiving an acceptable proposal, then a revised land use plan would be submitted to the Office of the Chancellor.

Construction of a golf course on the SIUE campus, in accord with carefully developed requirements to be specified in the RFP, could prove to be of great value to the University. It would be a means of introducing a large number of persons to the campus and its resources; provide a source of recreation for students, faculty, staff and the community; support courses in Health, Recreation and Physical Education; provide a facility for our golf team and make possible hosting NCAA events; and provide a source of income for the University. This University, unlike many others, is fortunate to have sufficient land for its long term development. Developing a golf course on part of that land is a prudent and responsible use of the land until it is needed for other purposes.

Under separate cover I will send to you the following items:

- 1. Materials distributed at the public hearings;
- 2. Transcripts of public hearings; written testimony received;
- Consultants' report on alternative sites;
- 4. Inventory of current uses of each site;
- 5. Preliminary list of stipulations to be included in the RFP.

I request that UPBC review these materials and my recommendation and report the results of its review to me by May 9, 1990.

Attachment

cc: Jesse Harris Michael Ramsey David Steinberg



