

NU officials review nine sites for proposed parking garage

By Paula Lavigne
Staff Reporter

Nine sites are under review for the location of a proposed 4 1/2 story parking garage for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln after a dispute over the original site.

The proposed original location was next to Alpha Phi Sorority. Sorority members opposed the project because of safety and privacy concerns.

UNL Associate Vice Chancellor Paul Carlson said the approximately \$4.5 million 416-stall parking garage would be made "as safe as possible."

"We will do all we can that's economically feasible to make it work for (Alpha Phi)," Carlson said.

He said a flat wall could be built on the side of the garage that would face the sorority to separate the two.

"There are also questions that it won't look nice," he said. "It would have to be aesthetically pleasing. It could look very much like a classroom building."

Carlson said the purpose of building the garage was to create space for short-term visitor parking.

"Right now, there's a concern if we allow

both visitors and students to use it, students would monopolize it," he said.

He said the garage could be used for students on a short-time turn around basis.

"It's designed for people who want to come for an hour or two," Carlson said.

The original location, Carlson said, would be an opportune area because it is close to the most utilized section of campus with the union, library, administration building and academic core nearby.

He said it would also be the easiest location to maneuver traffic.

"If we exit and enter on R street, it would cut down on traffic," he said. It would also consolidate visitor space, he said.

The existing visitor parking west of the Episcopal church on the east side of the union and in the cul de sac west of the union would then be freed up for other uses.

Carlson said some of the other sites under consideration would be tougher to use because of existing buildings or businesses the university would have to buy out.

The site at 14th and R streets would involve demolishing the Culture Center, Lambda Chi Fraternity and buying property owned by Wendy's and VVS (Coin Fun.)



James Mehlsing/DN

Park to symbolize 'ideal of peace'

By Angela Jones
Staff Reporter

In a world where people's lives are constantly threatened by violence, Nebraska may be building a threshold of tranquility.

The World Peace Center located in Lincoln is developing a Prairie Peace Park located eight miles west of Lincoln off I-80 at the Pleasant Dale interchange (Exit 388).

"The Park is a visual embodiment of the dream and ideal of world peace, and the end of violence as a means of conflict resolution," said Sally Oglesby, events coordinator for the Park.

Don Tilley, director of the project, has dreamt of developing a park for peace for many years. Tilley sees the prairie as a metaphor for world peace, because all the parts of the prairie are interconnected, Oglesby said.

Tilley's dream is coming true. With the help of international volunteers from seven different countries, grants and public donations, a 27.5 acre environmental peace park is underway.

"The Prairie Peace Park is the only one of its kind in the U.S., and possibly the world," Oglesby said.

The park is meant to symbolize peace between nations, ethnic groups, races, religions, sexes, and peace with the environment, Oglesby said. She hopes that the park will be used by everyone, and that they will reflect on what they see and read there.

Various works of art, created by artists from around the world, will be featured at the park, Oglesby said.

One of the most impressive visual medi-

ums is the World Peace Mural, an 80'x10' work composed of fired clay tiles. The mural was designed by 33 artists from different countries, and 1500 people who stomped the clay.

Some other things included in the Park are a Children's Maze, Amber Waves of Grain, a War/Peace Path and a USA Grass Map and Maze.

So after years of dreaming and preparation, the grand opening for Prairie Peace Park is this Saturday, June 11.

Events will begin at 7:30 a.m. with a Native American Sacred Pipe Ceremony, and will continue until 6 p.m. with an African Closing Ceremony.

"Saturday will be a day filled with activities for people of all ages and cultures," Oglesby said.

The variety of activities for the day include Tai Chi, a martial arts exhibit, Children's Banner Painting, and a World Drum Circle with Micheal DiMartino, in which everyone is encouraged to participate.

"We want the World Drum Circle to symbolize cooperation and harmony," Oglesby said.

The dedication ceremonies will begin at 2 p.m. with Edward Asner as M.C.

The event is free, but donations will be suggested, as a means to keep the park self-sustaining, Oglesby said.

The park is many things, including a place where people can go to escape from the everyday horrors, and a symbol of the insanity of war and the ideal of peace, Oglesby said.

"Today as we are honoring D-Day as the end of World War II, we hope we can honor this park as the end of war altogether."

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