

Meeting No. 908

THE MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS
OF
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM

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September 25, 1997

Austin, Texas

MEETING NO. 908

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1997.--The members of the Board of Regents of The University of Texas System convened via telephone conference call at 2:05 p.m. on Thursday, September 25, 1997, on the ninth floor of Ashbel Smith Hall at 201 West Seventh Street in Austin, Texas, with the following in attendance:

ATTENDANCE.--

Present

Chairman Evans, presiding

Vice-Chairman Loeffler

Vice-Chairman Clements

Regent Hicks

Regent Lebermann

Regent Oxford

Regent Riter

Regent Sanchez

Absent

*Regent Smiley

Executive Secretary Dilly

Chancellor Cunningham

Executive Vice Chancellor Burck

In accordance with a notice being duly posted with the Secretary of State and there being a quorum present, Chairman Evans called the meeting to order. He announced that the sole purpose of this special meeting was to consider the two items set forth in Interim Agenda 98-1 which had been previously distributed to the Board. Chairman Evans reported to the Board that these items were of sufficient urgency that they needed to be resolved prior to the regular meeting of the Board on November 12-13, 1997.

*Regent Smiley was excused because of a previous commitment.

1. U. T. El Paso: Redesignation of the Special Events Center as Don Haskins Center (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VIII, Section 1, Naming of Buildings and Other Facilities) (No Publicity).--Upon recommendation of the Chancellor, the Executive Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs, the Vice Chancellor for Development and External Relations, the Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and President Natalicio, the Board redesignated the Special Events Center at The University of Texas at El Paso as the Don Haskins Center to recognize the accomplishments and contributions of Mr. Don Haskins, the men's basketball coach at U. T. El Paso, pursuant to the Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VIII, Section 1, relating to naming of buildings and other facilities.

Mr. Haskins was elected to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on February 3, 1997, with formal induction to take place on September 29, 1997, in Springfield, Massachusetts. This induction will recognize Coach Haskins' thirty-six years of commitment to U. T. El Paso and the El Paso community. In addition to coaching the men's basketball teams, Coach Haskins is also widely credited for having made a significant contribution to the integration of intercollegiate athletics nationally.

With the imminent induction of Coach Haskins to the Hall of Fame, there has been considerable interest and urging by the El Paso community to name the Special Events Center for Coach Haskins prior to his official retirement.

To recognize Coach Haskins' pending induction into the Hall of Fame, a major fund-raising event in his honor is planned for September 25, 1997. Many dignitaries will attend this event, and this will be an appropriate occasion to announce an official change in the name of the Special Events Center to the Don Haskins Center.

This request to name a University of Texas System facility for an employee prior to his retirement is unusual but is warranted due to Coach Haskins' long service to U. T. El Paso, the timing related to his Hall of Fame recognition, and the fund-raising event in his honor.

It was requested that no publicity be given to this matter prior to the social event on September 25, 1997.

2. U. T. Permian Basin: Authorization to Change the Name of Central Loop Between State Highway 191 and Main Road to Preston Smith Road (Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VIII, Section 1, Naming of Buildings and Other Facilities).--The Board, upon recommendation of the Chancellor, the Acting Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, and President Sorber, changed the name of Central Loop between State Highway 191 and Main Road on the campus of The University of Texas of the Permian Basin to Preston Smith Road in accordance with the Regents' Rules and Regulations, Part One, Chapter VIII, Section 1, relating to the naming of buildings and other facilities.

The City of Odessa is building a new road which will intersect State Highway 191 (42nd Street) and run north. The intersection at State Highway 191 will be directly across from the State Highway 191 entrance to the U. T. Permian Basin campus. The City of Odessa has named this new street Preston Smith Road, and Regental approval was requested to extend the same name for this street on the U. T. Permian Basin campus. Former Texas Governor Preston E. Smith signed the legislation which created U. T. Permian Basin in 1969, so it is a fitting tribute to name this street in his honor.

The City of Odessa has invited Governor Smith to Odessa for the dedication of Preston Smith Road on October 23, 1997, and it is appropriate that the naming of the campus street also be completed by that date.

ADJOURNMENT.--Chairman Evans announced that the purpose for which this meeting was called had been completed and the meeting was duly adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

/s/ Arthur H. Dilly
Executive Secretary

September 26, 1997