**Hostel 7/8/LH reconstruction**

Update 4 1st March ,2021

1. **Project Progress:**
2. The firm,2by3, assigned to prepare the pre-design document, have started their assignment and a few meetings with stakeholders have already taken place. Hopefully, we will have a draft architect’s brief in hand by end of March/early April to get sign off from the IITB.
3. The project team (currently comprising S. Narayan, Vipin Mittal and Sushil Singh) have shortlisted the following firms of architects who have shown interest in doing the project: Hafeez Contractor, Architects Combine, Edifice, Somaya & Kallapa, Ratan Batliboi, Kadri &associates, Abha Lambha. We await any additions that the Dean (IPS) may suggest.
4. The plan is to give the architects brief to these firms to convert this into “concept designs “ for the hostels. The best will be chosen to be the architect for the project.
5. The project team will shortly be expanded to include two members from H7 & one member from LH.
6. We have requested the Dean (IPS)’s office to nominate one member from their staff to be on the project committee. The CEO of IITBAA, Devesh Khatu, will be the ex-officio secretary of the committee.
7. **Fund raising progress:**
8. The fund raising teams are being formed, especially for H7/LH, and we had our third call on Saturday, 27th February with an expanded team including alumni from H7 and LH.
9. During the call, after brief introductions, Kirat outlined the status of the project and said that the first task was to raise the Rs3.5 to 4 crs required for Phase1. He mentioned that he had already received pledges amounting to Rs1.4 crores from 5 alumni and adding the balances in the H8 &H7 HATS accounts in IITBAA we had around Rs1.6 crores tied up.
10. Sudhir mentioned that when he had raised this issue in his WhatsApp group of alumni of H7 there had been some negative feedback, primarily around the question of why the IITB is not able to fund the hostel and given the history of delays, etc. what is the chance that this project will not suffer the same fate.
11. Kirat pointed out that he had faced similar questions from many potential donors and we would have to find convincing answers for them. **Pari pointed out that we should never try to raise money in a group unless you are confident of their reactions because one negative reaction will lead to a loss of the whole group. Always do it one person at a time. More effort and time consuming but chances of success are much more.**
12. Subodh pointed out that we need to have a short presentation to send to people or refer to when we talk to alumni. Ravishankar said that he and his team will prepare one by end of next week.
13. Kirat then asked that we need “seed capital” from some 10 friendly alumni who can each give $30000/Rs25lacs to complete our target for phase 1. **Can all the volunteers please identify at least one alumni each who is willing to pitch in at this early stage with around that kind of money to complete our phase 1 funding needs? We would like to tie up Phase1 pledges by March 31st.**
14. Looking forward, Ravishankar suggested that each of us identify one or two people from the batches before and after us who would serve as ambassadors /coordinators for their batches for the next phase. That would lead to a list of 30 to 40 volunteers for each hostel who could then be counted upon to identify the HNIs in each batch. He had made a partial list of HNIs but would like to expand it. Pari mentioned that there would hardly half a dozen alumni who would have given IITB $1 million and more and that it is difficult to get money from them because so many people are asking them for the same.
15. Zenobia mentioned that where the ladies hostel is concerned the message will have to be different because hostel 10 has already been built and occupied for the last few years. Hence, naming the new hostel something else is necessary. Also, it would be useful to provide the statistics of how many ladies are there on campus, how many are sharing rooms and how many rooms will be required. Ravi volunteered to get the information and circulate it.
16. The action points from this call:
17. Ravi Shankar and team to prepare a short presentation about the project.
18. People to identify at least one person who will fund a part of Phase 1 requirements in the next couple of weeks.
19. Everyone to reach out to at a couple persons in the batches before and after them to make a list of ambassadors of each batch hostel wise.
20. Ravi to circulate the statistics of the ladies hostel.
21. Next call would be on 14th March, Saturday morning, IST.
22. **Other matters:**
23. A draft MOU for Phase 1 (design,cost estimates,and permissions and accumulation of pledges) has been drafted . Some amendments have been suggested by IITBHF & IITB and Zenobia Driver and Ravishankar are will have a final version ready soon.
24. IITBAA is also taking legal advice for the second phase as it will involve large sums and they, rightly, want to ensure that all legal/tax requirements are met. Ideas about floating a Special Purpose vehicle for implementing the construction are being investigated. The opinion of one prominent firm has been received and on the cursory reading there is no legal hurdle in proceeding with the scheme. The opinion of a second expert is awaited.

Please call or email me if you need any more details on the above.

Kirat Patel