Parking and Transportation Advisory Subcommittee
Minutes for Meeting on March 14, 2016

The meeting started at 1pm at 44 Lower College Road Conference Room
Members in attendance: Stephen Baker, Pamela Rohland, Michael Novak, Joseph Paradise, Linda Lowe. Also attending was Ron Zincone, Parking Services Information Aide

The new Parking Services Information Aide, Ron Zincone, was formally introduced. Ron took notes for this meeting.

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved with one minor spelling correction.

Joe Paradise gave an overview of the Parking Services budget. The revenue is based on projections using prior years as a guide. Most of the revenue comes from Student Parking Permits and the Student Transportation Fee. Joe anticipates a $400,000 shortfall this year mainly due to the late start with permits because of a new database system. He feels that many students have not registered this year but he is still getting semester and weekly registrations coming in. The semester registration is new this year. URI has one of the lower transportation fees for similar universities. It is currently at $94 per student and scheduled to go to $96 in the fall. Joe also explained the number of current personnel working in Parking Services and spoke about some of the “Other” expenses in the budget.

An update was given regarding the Master Plan for Transportation and Parking. It had gone out to bid but the product was more expensive than anticipated and the timing is not right to start so late into a semester. A decision was made by the Review Team to change the scope of the project and go back out to bid with the goal of starting the project in September where parking issues are at their peak. The end result will be a better product for the university.

Paradise reported that he is meeting with RIPTA next week and the goal will be to extend the current agreement for one year due to the Master Plan review. There was discussion about a proposed “UPass” program and the possibility of a pilot program through legislation. Representative Teresa Tanzi is advocating this approach and Paradise and Baker will be attending a meeting with her and members of the Sustainability Committee. The current cost for the on-campus shuttle is $1,044,000. The Master Plan will look at other options which could include keeping RIPTA, outsourcing to a different vendor, or having the University take on the shuttle system.

Baker started a discussion about updating the Parking Regulations which has not been done since 2006. The process would be for this committee to make recommendations to be presented to the President’s team and then to the Board of Higher Education. The goal is to have everything in place
before September. All members are asked to look at the current URI regulations and make recommendations. There was discussion about raising the current fine from $40 where it has been since 1999. We will check with CCRI and RIC but it is believed that they are at $50.00. Currently only URI Police can write the RITT tickets for these violations. These are based on RIGL 15-52-1. Director Baker has received approval from the Magistrate of the Rhode Island Traffic Tribunal (RITT) that would allow URI to use a vendor ticket for the non-registration fine only. The proposal would be that the student getting fined for non-registration would have a certain time period to register their vehicle and use that fine toward the registration. Otherwise, Parking Services would receive the revenue from the fine. Currently, URI receives a small percentage of every fine from RITT. Parking Services would also like to have a remedy for dealing with habitual offenders.

There was also discussion about the need for areas for motorcycle parking. Paradise mentioned using some existing concrete pads or designating other areas for motorcycles only. One of the issues will be how the decal would be placed on the motorcycle.

Pamela Rohland suggested that we look into creating a special “car pool” permit.

A meeting request will go out to have another meeting in April.

The meeting adjourned at 2:11pm.

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Parking and Transportation Advisory Subcommittee
Meeting on March 14, 2016
44 Lower College Road 1pm-2pm
Agenda

I. Welcome and Introduction

II. Review of Minutes from Previous Meeting

III. Overview of Parking Services Budget

IV. Update on Master Plan for Transportation and Parking

V. Update on Transportation Plans with RIPTA

VI. Process to Change Current Parking Regulations

VII. Next Meeting date