

URI Master Plan Review Team
Minutes of Meeting
Friday, November 8, 2019
Alumni Center Board Room

Membership Present: Abigail Rider, Karl Calvo, Paul DePace, Brian Maynard, Ryan Carrillo, Dave Palazzetti, Linda Acciardo, James Vecchione, Jodi Hawkins, Kaela Gray, William Green, Michael Katz

Membership Absent: John Kirby, Ann Morrissey, Steve Baker, Student Representative (TBA)

Support Staff Present: Dulcie Ilgenfritz, Karen Beck, Ken Burke, Michael Donohue, Sheleen Clarke, KMA Design staff Jeremy Detwiler, Barbara Martin, Dave Kosick, and LDD Collaborative, Mike Farias

Call to Order

Abigail Rider called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM with an introduction of Karl Calvo, Assistant Vice President Facilities Group; Jim Vecchione, Director Facilities Operations; Kaela Gray, Town of South Kingstown Interim Planning Director

Approvals

The minutes of the November 9, 2018 meeting were reviewed. Motion made to approve the minutes. Motion seconded; motion passed.

1. Wayfinding Design

Karen Beck provided background on the Wayfinding project which will result in a comprehensive wayfinding package for Kingston, W. Alton Jones, and the Narragansett Bay Campuses but does not include any building mounted signs. KMA Design is the firm awarded the contract for this project. Over a period of several months, numerous constituents/groups on campus were consulted and offered the opportunity to provide input.

The KMA Design team presented design options to the committee including branding at the main entrances of the campuses, signage styles, lighting, and stonework with the overall need to bring consistency between campuses.

Each campus could be differentiated by their main campus sign such as a metal wave pattern for NBC, leaves for Alton Jones, and a solid background for Kingston.

Other options include branding at the stone gateway to the Kingston campus in either the written URI name or with the URI seal; the branding of the smoke stack on campus; LED lighting at the Plains Road entrance to the University or at the parking lots to help provide special wayfinding instructions (no advertising).

Feedback from the committee included the following comments:

- Linda Acciardo as well as a majority of the committee approved of the URI seal at the stone gateway to the Kingston Campus but felt it may be too much on other signs.
- Dave Palazzetti did not like the proposed wave pattern for the Narragansett Bay Campus but preferred the plain options offered for the Kingston Campus.

- Kaela Gray said the Town of South Kingstown does not promote the use of LED signs in town. The majority of the committee did not advocate for LED signs, though Jodi Hawkins felt it may be useful as a directional tool.
- The committee was also opposed to the branding of the smoke stack on the Kingston Campus citing maintenance issues.
- For the main campus signage, the committee preferred the stacked field stone for both NBC and Alton Jones and the granite base for Kingston.
- The committee suggested pricing as well as a maintenance plan for the signs.

Sign locations have not been determined yet. This will be presented at a future meeting.

The comments from the committee will be shared with Senior Leadership for their direction.

2. Upper College Road

Ken Burke updated the committee on the Upper College Road project. The reconstruction of Upper College Road will extend from 138 to Flagg Road. The project design started in January of 2019 with anticipated utility work during the summer of 2020. The reconstruction will take into account recommendations from the Transportation and Parking Master Plan including the addition of a bike lane, 11 foot driving lanes, and the removal of on-street parking after the Kingston Free Library. The trees will be preserved to the greatest extent possible, with input from the URI arborists.

Brian Maynard requested that he review with the Arborists any plans for tree removal.

Information and Discussion

1. Base for BGS Key

The MPRT recommended at the November 2018 meeting that Senior Leadership is consulted regarding the location and installation of the BGS key. Senior Leadership approved a different location than what was proposed to the committee; a location closer to the building.

2. New Business

It was noted that the signage near Greenhouse Road and East Alumni did not match the signage standard. The Planning Office is aware and is working to have it corrected.

The November 8, 2019 MPRT meeting adjourned at 3:19 PM.