

**URI Master Plan Review Team
Minutes of Meeting**

Wednesday, March 11, 2015 11:00AM – 12:00PM
Alumni Center Board Room

Present: Christina Valentino, Ryan Carrillo, Vern Wyman, Dave Lavallee, Erin Earle, Joe Paradise, Steve Baker, Jerry Sidio, Dave Palazzetti, Vern Wyman, John Sears, Paul DePace, Ann Morrissey, Vin Murray

Absent: Will Green, Art Tuveson

Support: Sharon Blackmar, Sheleen Clark, Diane Soule

Call to Order

Christina L. Valentino, Chair, opened the meeting with a welcome and intention of future meetings to start on time and the duration to be one hour. She will be stepping back into the host role and frequency of the meetings will be every other month moving forward.

First item of business was to Agenda item #2: New Committee Membership.

Ryan Carrillo addressed that upon an evaluation of the past and present membership and in an effort to get this committee back on track for regular meetings, standing meetings will be held bimonthly moving forward. Meetings will be cancelled if there is no need to meet. The goal is to have this committee, an Advisory Committee to the President, to meet more frequently than in the past and to define the membership to reflect a broad representation of throughout the campus community. The University Manual will be updated to reflect the changes in membership that are being made by importance of the position vs. individual names. The proposed membership is provided in the attached document, Exhibit A, shared with the group today. The membership reflects the voting members of the Master Plan Review Team, and this committee will report its recommendations to the President for final decision.

Revision of the proposed membership will include subcommittee oversight:

1. Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee

This chair appointed subcommittee will focus on all aspects of Parking and Transportation that fall under charge of the Master Plan Review Team. As issues of Parking and Transportation arise, this subcommittee will meet, review the details and reported recommended actions back to the Master Plan Review Team for their consideration and recommendation for implementation to the President.

2. Campus Tree Advisory Committee

This chair appointed subcommittee will focus on all aspects of Trees, both of additions and removals as related to aspects of the campus that fall under the charge of the Master Plan Review Team. As issues relative to trees on campus arise, this subcommittee will meet, review the details and reported recommended actions back to the Master Plan Review Team for their consideration and recommendation for implementation to the President.

Conversation continued among those present about individuals from various offices and departments who felt it was important to continue to be notified and invited to these meetings for reasons that this committee and its work directly impact their jobs. For instance, Communications and Marketing, Public

Safety, Parking Services, and Visitor Center would have staff that would benefit from participating in the meetings for specific agenda items. It was clarified that the MPRT is an open committee and anyone can attend. A List Serve will be established for purposes of notifying the committee and subcommittee participants of standard meetings, sharing meeting materials, etc.

The Master Plan Review Team consists of Presidential appointments. Letters of appointment will be prepared for committee members and specific terms will be addressed.

Information and Discussion

Campus Signage - Phase I: This has been a long process involving a contractor from Georgia. There are a total of 174 building signs – 48 have been installed. There are 42 yard signs to be installed. The deadline for the delivery and installation was March 1st, 2015 and the contractor is being charged \$100/day for each day the signage is overdue. He is to drive the remaining signs to Rhode Island for installation on March 26th.

Campus Signage - Phase II: Provision of NBC campus wayfinding/911 signage, W. Alton Jones and Kingston campus wayfinding improvements will be in the next contract. The intention is for more pedestrian friendly signage from parking lots through campus. We are continuing to evaluate our goals.

Fraternity Circle Neighborhood Master Plan: The committee viewed proposed redesign plans and listened to the goals of the plans. There are two phases, some are necessary, such as the utilities and infrastructure, and some are desired improvements, such as amenity spaces. Sidewalks and walkways will be in alignment with any building renovation or new construction, including wastewater runoff. The Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) is looking for ways to fund the debt, including private gifts. The IFC is fully on board with the improvements and supports the project moving forward – it funded the development of the Master Plan we are reviewing. The images and goals are shared with the committee in the attached Exhibit B.

Upper College Road – Multiuse Development: This project has achieved preliminary approval. It includes Phase 1 with a University Inn and Conference Center and Phase 2 with apartments & retail shops. Funds have been identified to proceed with A&E review and design guidelines as materials and scale will be key so as not to change the character of the area. The Town of South Kingstown will be informed and included, and any RFP's will reflect the town's input. There was concern about the apartments becoming dorms for undergraduates; however, the university is looking to this development to provide more options for professionals to live close to campus. Ultimately the occupancy of these units will be market driven.

White Horn Brook Apartments: New student housing project with approximately 500 beds. The RFP will include an A&E team to review the master plan, the proposed site and other options. Once the selected A&E team has completed the site verification process, a site plan will be presented to the MPRT for review and approval.

Adjournment

Membership letters will be prepared and sent out to MPRT members. Please sign and return to Christina L. Valentino.

Thank you.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58AM.