

**Master Plan Review Team  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday, May 22, 2012  
2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
Alumni Center Board Room**

**Present:** Linda Acciaro, Abu Bakr, Ryan Carrillo, Paul DePace, Bob Drapeau, Tom Frisbie-Fulton, William Green, Dave Lavalley, Ann Morrissey, Vincent Murray, Rick Rhodes, Jerry Sidio, Art Tuveson, Bob Weygand, Vern Wyman, Chip Yensan

**Absent:** Jeff Callahan, Erin West

**Additional Participants:** Braden Drypolcher, Diane Soule, and Laura Sullivan, Campus Planning & Design; Bonnie Bosworth, Bob Dilworth, Joe Parillo, Fine Arts Center

**Motions and Approvals**

**1. Fine Arts Center Exterior Sign**

The exterior sign at the corner of Bills and Upper College Roads is in a state of disrepair. Event and program signage is difficult to read, inconvenient to access, and is not reflective of the arts or the active programming in the building. The chairs of Art/Art History, Music, and Theatre have requested a new or substantially refurbished sign.

CP&D recommends repairing the existing sign as an interim solution. A permanent architectural signage solution will be designed as part of the building renovation project. Recommended repairs include repainting with branded colors, electrical repairs and upgrades, and adjustment of changeable displays to accommodate mylar signs.

Discussion points included electronic signage, snow removal, costs of mylar vs. electronic signs, visibility, coordination among the departments, and the interim nature of the proposed solution.

**Vote** to approve the following refurbishments and upgrades to the Fine Arts Center Exterior Sign:

- a. Refurbish existing sign as recommended above
- b. Increase square footage of changeable display area within existing frame
- c. Repair electrical/lighting and alter electrical as needed for mylar signs
- d. Prepare pathway for maintenance access, snow removal, and pedestrian viewing
- e. Manage snow removal to avoid obscuring the view of the sign from the street
- f. Design a permanent building signage solution in the building A/E Design

Motion was made by Rick Rhodes and seconded by Abu Bakr. **Approved** unanimously.

## 2. Route 138/Keaney Parking Lot

Paul DePace reviewed the proposed changes to Keaney Parking Lot. This is a two phase project. The first phase (east section of lot) is scheduled to coordinate with RIDOT's Route 138 Improvement Project, currently in the RIDEM permitting process, with construction likely to begin in Spring 2013. URI has contracted the same firm that is redesigning Route 138, Beta Engineering. The second phase (west section of the lot) will be implemented at a later date.

Discussion points included water retention, improvements to White Horn Brook edge conditions and flow, bike parking and bike path connections, pedestrian access to Peckham Farm, loss of parking spaces in Phase II.

**Vote** to authorize Capital Projects to proceed with Keaney Parking Lot Phase I in conjunction with RIDOT's 138 Improvement Project: Motion was made by Bob Drapeau and seconded by Will Green and Jerry Sidio. **Approved** unanimously.

## 3. Landscape Design Standards

CP&D recommended hardscape elements as a follow up to more general discussion of landscape design standards on 3/9/12. Specifications for approved elements will be included in a paper and electronic booklet.

- a. Benches – 1890 period style for Old Quad & Ranger/Green; modern style elsewhere
- b. Post & Chain fencing
- c. Bollard sleeves
- d. Stone walls – cut, shaped boulder stone walls, except in North District (vener walls)
- e. Lighting – 3 types: traditional for Old Quad & Upper College, parking lot lighting, modern elsewhere
- f. Paint Colors – primarily black
- g. Trash cans
- h. Sidewalk tactile pavers – grey
- i. Guard rails - wood
- j. Screening – grid style
- k. Galvanized handrails

Discussion points included establishing blanket contracts with local and Native American stonemasons as allowable by State Purchases, up shielding on lighting fixtures, and including lighting pole heights in the design standards. Committee members expressed mixed viewpoints regarding the 1890 period style benches. The benches were removed from the proposal, pending the opportunity for the MPRT to test a sample bench.

**Vote** to approve landscape design standards b – k: Motion was made by Rick Rhodes and seconded by Dave Lavalley and Vern Wyman. **Approved** unanimously.

#### **4. Campus Road Renaming (Quarry Road and Chafee Road)**

CP&D presented two recommendations for road renaming, in addition to the changes approved on 3/9/12.

1. Abandon Chafee Road – the New Chemistry Building project will eliminate Chafee Road
2. Rename the section of Fraternity Circle that links Keaney Road and Quarry Road as Quarry Road for ease of navigation

A discussion of Fraternity Circle and Quarry Road ensued. The committee decided not to vote on recommendation 2.

Bob Drapeau noted serious concerns regarding the section of Fraternity Circle that is not scheduled for repair or upgrading. He recommended that work be completed prior to closing the Fraternity Circle/Route 138 curb cut.

**Vote** to abandon Chafee Road, and delay implementation of renaming of all sections of Plains Road until an agreement with the Town of South Kingstown is in place: Motion was made by Jerry Sidio and seconded by Linda Acciaro. **Approved** unanimously.

#### **Updates**

##### **5. Taft Hall**

Taft Hall has been completely renovated. Issues addressed in this complex renovation included mold remediation, historic preservation, fire code, and accessibility. Remaining work includes landscaping around the air conditioning units.

##### **6. Research Office**

Freshly painted. Lead paint remediation complete.

##### **7. Performance Contracting – East and Washburn**

New period style windows being installed.

##### **8. College of Pharmacy**

Building construction is nearing completion.

##### **9. Library Learning Commons**

Scheduled completion date is June 2012.

##### **10. Hillside**

Hillside will be a sprint to the finish. Construction is ongoing.

## **11. Chemistry Building**

CP&D proposes to use a modular stone-like block material on the exterior walls of the ground floor. It is as durable as concrete block, looks like stone, but costs significantly less than stone. The committee offered no objection to this architectural solution.

## **12. Fine Arts Center**

A/E proposals for a 2 phase facility programming and design project were received by State Purchases last week. At present, only Phase I, programming and conceptual design is funded.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.