



Facilities Planning & Management

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Campus Planning Committee

November 12, 2020

WebEX Virtual Meeting

8:30am to 10:00am

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Craig Berridge, Derrick Buisch, Joel Gerrits, Yevgenya Grinblat, Elizabeth Harris, Mark Markel, Shelby O'Connor, Kurt Paulsen, Andrew Pietroske, Ryan Pingel, Ian Robertson, Elizabeth Sadowski, Cameron Scarlett, Karl Scholz, Bret Shaw, Linsey Steege (left meeting at 9am), Lindsey Stoddard-Cameron, Mario Trujillo, Eric Wilcots

Excused: Library Committee Representative (seat vacant)

FP&M: Kris Ackerbauer, Josh Arnold, Travis Blomberg, Jonathan Bronk, Gary Brown, Daniel Einstein, Alan Fish, Chad Hinman, Rhonda James, Kip McMahan, Missy Nergard, Margaret Tennessen, Cindy Torstveit, Aaron Williams

Guests: Nzinga Acosta, Aaron Bird-Bear, Kacie Butcher, Chris Bruhn, Rebecca Comfort, Cheryl Gittens, Lindsey Honeyager, Eden Inoway-Ronnie, Gabe Javier, Larry Jolón, Nyla Mathis, Nalah McWhorter, David Mickelson, Giselle Monette, Rob Nurre, Christina Olstad, Bill Quackenbush, Lori Reesor, Alex Roe, Doug Sabatke, Brad Singer, Kurt Stephenson, Kate Sullivan

1. CALL TO ORDER:

- a. Scholz called to order at 9:30am

2. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Approval of October 22, 2020 Minutes (**Action Item**)
 - i. Minutes approved unanimously
- b. A moment of thanks was extended by the provost and Gary Brown for the excellent work provided over the past 11 months by Alan Fish, the Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Planning & Management.

3. 2023-25 CAPITAL BUDGET PLANNING PROCESS SCHEDULE (Brown)

- The 2021-2023 Capital Budget submittal has been made it through UW System and the Board of Regents and is currently at the Department of Administration (DOA). UW will hear in early 2021 on the recommendations from DOA as the governor releases his draft budget recommendations.
- The Capital Planning process is built on several important big picture documents. The UW-Madison Strategic Framework 2020-2025 along with the 2015 Campus Master Plan and School, College and Division plans combine to inform the projects to bring forward each biennium as part of the biennial capital budget and Six-Year Capital Development Plan. The Strategic Framework 2020-25 includes the following priority areas:
 - o Excellence in Teaching and Educational Achievement
 - o Excellence in Research and Scholarship
 - o Living the Wisconsin Idea
 - o A Vibrant Campus Community

- A High Performing Organization
- Beginning in the spring of 2021, FP&M will begin meeting with the university's Schools, Colleges, and Divisions (S/C/Ds) to understand project priorities for the 2023-25 Capital Budget and the 2023-29 Six-Year Capital Development Plan.
- Key Milestone Dates include:
 - Early 2021 – FP&M met with S/C/Ds to prioritize projects
 - June 4, 2021 – S/C/Ds prioritized project lists submittal deadline to FP&M
 - June 2021 – Project lists prioritized by the Executive Leadership Team
 - July 2021 – S/C/Ds notified on which projects will be advancing for Campus Planning Committee review and when during the fall 2021 semester.
 - August 2, 2021 and throughout the fall – S/C/Ds submit presentations to FP&M for Campus Planning Committee consideration.

4. NEW BUSINESS

a. Chamberlin Rock Removal

- i. Provost: At the culmination of this agenda item we would like a motion and vote on the request to remove the Rock from the CPC which will be advisory to the Chancellor.
- ii. Student presenters introduced themselves to the committee:
 - Nalah McWhorter – President, Wisconsin Black Student Union (WBSU)
 - Nzinga Acosta – Vice President WBSU
 - Giselle Monette – Representative of Wunk Sheek
- iii. Chamberlin Rock History & Background (Brown)
 1. Pre-Cambrian era glacial erratic that is an iconic representation of Wisconsin glaciation period.
 2. Excavated and moved to the current site in 1925.
 3. The plaque commemorating Thomas Chowder Chamberlin was installed in 1926.
 4. The rock is located on Observatory Hill and within the documented Observatory Hill Archaeological Site boundary.
 - a. Removal of the stone will require Wisconsin Historical Society review and approval due to the disturbance within the archaeological site.
 5. An article from October 9, 1925 provides information about the excavation and relocation of the rock, while also using disruptive language that is inappropriate by today's societal norms.
 6. Irrespective of the preferred option to remove the rock, FP&M will be the liaison between the university and Wisconsin Historical Society through the official 'Request to Disturb a Catalogued Burial site' process.
 7. Options for Removal and Disposition:
 - a. Remove the rock and re-locate off campus
 - b. Bury the boulder on the site in its original location
 - c. Breakup the rock and dispose
 8. WBSU Presentation:
 - a. Nalah McWhorter: Why do we have this demand?
 - i. Black students on campus have come together to envision a more welcoming campus experience. This is one of the four (4) demands that the WBSU has submitted to the Chancellor.
 - ii. The rock is a symbol of the injustice students of color face on campus daily.
 - iii. Presented student perspective quotes in regard to the rock.
 - b. Giselle Monette: Timeline for seeking support.
 - i. 7/14/20 Chancellor, Reesor, and Gittens meeting
 - ii. 10/08/20 Reesor and Gittens meeting update
 - iii. 10/15/20 Bird-Bear tribal sovereignty meeting
 - iv. 11/3/20 Quackenbush tribal historic preservation officer meeting
 - v. 11/11/20 Submitted a letter for a statement of approval to Ho-Chunk
 - vi. Nov. 2020, WBSU will work with FP&M to submit a 'Request to Disturb a Burial Site' with the Wisconsin Historical Society

- c. Nzinga Acosta: Further Actions, what happens to the rock?
 - i. With an initial review and support of WBSU members, they are now pursuing the proper next steps to implement one of the proposed disposition options.
 - 1. Remove the rock and re-locate off campus
 - 2. Bury the boulder on the site in its original location
 - 3. Breakup the rock and dispose
 - ii. Initial survey of the general body of WBSU suggests burial as the most appropriate option, but their final position is still in progress based on new information from the Dept. of Geoscience and their use of the rock for teaching.
 - iii. What does justice look like?
 - iv. Will be working with the WBSU executive committee to engage with as many stakeholders as possible to arrive at a final recommendation for disposition from the students.
 - v. WBSU acknowledges that whatever action is decided it is rooted in the context of leaving a legacy for all parties involved.
9. Discussion:
- a. Brett Shaw: Sympathetic of the concerns and interested in if there was discussion about something more symbolically transformative such as potentially renaming the rock in celebration of this change. Not advocating for this position, inquiring if that was ever discussed.
 - i. McWhorter: Among BIPOC students the consensus is for the removal of the rock. Renaming does not remove the symbol which has a known history and symbolizes oppression and discrimination.
 - b. Prof. Brad Singer: On behalf of the Department of Geoscience at UW-Madison the rock has immense teaching and educational value in addition to its scientific importance and is used extensively throughout the department and coursework. Chamberlin made glaciation famous throughout the world as well as the ‘Multiple Working Hypothesis Concept’ which is germane to all sciences. The preference of the Department should come as no surprise that they would not want to remove the rock, but if necessary, would prefer the relocation of the rock to maintain the ability to be used as a teaching tool. An off-campus location would not be as conducive for teaching but would be educational for users of the trail, if relocated to the Ice Age Trail near Madison.
 - c. Rob Nurre: Concerns of students are based on the university addressing the underlying issues of institutional racism. The Public History Project is one endeavor attempting to tackle this priority. I am concerned as a landscape historian as well as an effigy mound preservationist. I am also an expert in Increase A. Lapham, who was the predecessor to Chamberlin running the Wisconsin Geologic Survey. The name is offensive and undeniably inappropriate. To my knowledge it was however a description used in quotes, used once by a journalist as a description of the physical thing and this specific rock some 95 years ago. It is important to look at the context, both the history and the use rather than to the emotional appeal to the word that is being taken out of context.
 - d. Yevgenya Grinblat: Speaking in strong support of this initiative and thanking the students for developing the proposal and doing the upfront work.
 - e. Kacie Butcher: As the Public History Project director I would like to speak about some of the history of the rock and this period on campus. There may be other records, beyond the one October 1925 article, but honestly the state of the UW archival records are not organized well making it difficult to search specifically on this topic. During this same

time period the archival records do indicate that there was a very active and pervasive presence of the KKK throughout Madison in the 1920's. People of color were often mocked in campus satire periodicals as well as through minstrel shows that were dehumanizing to students of color. This is an opportunity to prioritize students of color and engage with these complex conversations. Want to thank the students to bringing this to our attention.

- f. Bill Quackenbush: As the Ho-Chunk Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, we have a concern about its current location in a catalogued burial mound site. As long as the process is followed, I would coordinate a letter of support for removal to the Wisconsin Historical Society from the tribe. The mounds speak more prominently to the importance of the overall site and the rock is secondary. The ultimate removal and final determination on a new site or disposition would be up to the University.
- g. Craig Berridge: If we as a campus are truly committed to creating an inclusive environment on campus, we need to remove all symbols of racism, even if that means some of us need to suffer some small inconvenience. This seems entirely appropriate. I support this proposal and effort by the presenters.
- h. David Mickelson: Emeritus professor in Geology. Its current location has little to do with its importance. It is important due to its size and where it came from and as the largest glacial erratic in southern WI, but it does not need to be in this location nor have a plaque on it.
- i. Aaron Bird-Bear: He became aware of the history of the rock when he started his First Nations Cultural Landscape Tour. The article illuminated the conversation around civil rights at the time. The social context at the time was constraining power toward the white population. The rock interferes with equal educational opportunity for all and creates a sense of harm and sense of unwelcome to certain aspects of the student body.
- j. Lindsey Stoddard-Cameron: Would like to thank the students and mention through my discussions with others on campus that there have been concerns about breaking up the rock and am glad to hear the students have moved away from that option.
- k. Prof. Brad Singer: The Geoscience Department is open to further conversations and supports maintaining the rock by moving to a new location.

10. **Motion:** by Wilcots, seconded by Robertson to recommend approval to the Chancellor on the removal of Chamberlin Rock from Observatory Hill with its final disposition to be further studied.

- a. Markel: Propose waiting on making a recommendation to the chancellor on the final disposition of the rock.
- b. Robertson: Propose we wait until the students have more input from their membership along with others on campus about disposition.
- c. Motion passed unanimously. Fourteen (14) members voted, all in support of the motion. One (1) member while available at the initial attendance rollcall, needed to leave the meeting early and did not vote.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. Meeting materials available: <https://cpla.fpm.wisc.edu/planning/campus-planning-committee-cpc/>
- b. Next meeting will be December 17, 2020.

6. ADJOURN

- a. Scholz adjourned meeting at 9:52am.