

NOTES:

Mount Vernon Campus Quarterly Community Meeting

Zoom Meeting

Thursday, January 16, 2025 – 7:00 pm

Attendees:

Community Members

Bernie Horn – 3D05 Commissioner

Dave Roberts – Neighbor

GW University Staff

Kevin Days, Executive Director of Government and Community Relations

Besty Shimberg, Assistant Dean, Mount Vernon Campus

Review of the Agenda

Days provided an overview of the agenda.

There were no additions to the agenda.

Overview of the Spring 2025 Academic Calendar

Days provided an overview of the Academic Calendar.

There were no questions from community members.

Public Safety Update

Days gave an update on the Campus Safety Advisory Committee (CSAC) meetings held in the Fall semester. The next meeting of the CSAC is scheduled for February 2025. He also informed the community members that Sara Maddux was the community representative on the CSAC.

Days also shared thanks for the hard work that both the university and the community did to keep the sidewalks clean. Days reported that he had received a request for the sidewalk along W Street to be cleared and this was completed by MVC grounds crew.

Days provided an overview of the impacts of the Presidential Inauguration including parking restrictions and the closing of the Flagg Building from Saturday, January 18 to Monday, January 20, 2025.

There were no questions from community members.

Community Benefits Updates

Days provided a brief overview of the process for obtaining a Friends of GW GWorld Card.

Days also provided an overview of the GW Audit Program and noted that the deadline for applications was Friday, January 24, 2025.

Dave Roberts asked about the university's plans for the athletic fitness center that were included in the 2022 MVC Campus Plan.

Days responded that there was no timeline for completion of the athletic fitness center at this time. When the university decided to move forward with this project, we would provide updates to the community.

MVC Updates

Betsy Shimberg provided the follow updates to the meeting:

- Reminder: the MVC campus is available to book for retreats or conferences! Betsy.Shimberg@gwu.edu for information.
- Visit the MVC digital calendar of events on the home page of the website to be informed of upcoming activities, including performing arts.
- An Amazon Grab and Go Store has opened in Ames Hall, which will be open until midnight every day.
- A new Living-Learning Community, focused on Sustainability, will open in Merriweather Hall this fall.
- Composting has expanded to sites in the Community Garden and behind Pelham Commons Dining Hall
- Banners have been installed on the campus light posts to echo branding on Foggy Bottom.

Shimberg asked if there were any questions from the community.

Bernie Horn reported that he had none and that he felt that the university did a good job of keeping the community informed.

Shimberg invited community members to visit her on the campus.

Update on Construction Management & Campus Planning

Days provided a brief update on the work the university was conducting at Eckles Library (completing the turnstiles infrastructure) with a plan to finish the work over the Spring Break (March 10 through March 14). Days also noted that the Amazon Go convenience store, located adjacent to the coffee shop in Ames Hall, construction was completed and that the store would open next week.

Community Forum

Questions from community members

Roberts asked about GW's timeline for the projects included in the current plan.

Days responded that the university does not have a firm timeline for completing these projects but would come to the community before starting any work on the construction projects.

Roberts asked when this current campus plan was set to expire and when would the university engage with the community?

Days responded the current plan would expire in December 2031 and the university would begin work on the plan anyway between 18 and 24 months in advance. Days also said that the university committed to open communication to the community about the university's strategic and campus plan.

Days covered the newsletter links and the online reporting tool. He asked the neighbors to use the online reporting tool to report disruptive behavior by students. Reporting concerning behavior enables the university to investigate and sanction students found in violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.