

MEETING NOTES for the GW/COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

(As called for in the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan, Condition P-7)

Meeting #30/Quarter 1/February 9, 2015 – 6:30 pm in Duques Hall (2201 G Street) Room 553

1) WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Britany Waddell of The George Washington University opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. with introductions of individuals appointed by GW as members of this Advisory Committee, including herself and: Susi Cora, GW Director of Campus Planning; Alicia Knight, Senior Associate Vice President for Operations; Peter Konwerski, GW Vice Provost and Dean of Student Affairs, and; Andrew Goretsky who oversees GW's off-campus student affairs in GW's Center for Student Engagement. Following this, attendees introduced themselves, including: West End Citizen Association members Barbara Kahlow and Sara Maddux; Foggy Bottom Association President Marina Streznewski; Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (ANC) Peter Sacco and Patrick Kennedy; Ari Masefski President of GW's Residence Hall Association and RHA member Jacob Pavlik; GW staff members Kurt Hiatt, Richard Livingstone, John Ralls, and Eric Selbst.

2) CAMPUS PLAN AND CAMPUS DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

2a) Other 2007 FBCP initiatives:

Historic Preservation Plan: Cora said the university has complied with historic preservation requirements as part of the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan (2007 FBCP), including providing background information to the DC Historic Preservation Office for its work to create Historic District Guidelines and the successful adoption by HPRB in October 2014.

Streetscape Plan: Cora said GW work on 22nd Street and 23rd Streets between Eye Street and Pennsylvania Avenue/Washington Circle is substantially complete, tree box fencing is scheduled to be installed within the next two weeks, and plantings will occur as weather permits. Kahlow asked about the seating in the pocket park adjacent the 23rd Street entrance to the new Science and Engineering Hall and requested the recently installed seating be replaced with benches that have a backside. Cora confirmed that the design of the benches was shown in the approved Zoning Commission submissions and the university has no plans to install additional benches at this site.

Kahlow raised an additional issue about the segmented bench that had been removed from the park adjacent to the new Milken School of Public Health. Kahlow requested that the bench be re-installed facing another bench so people using the bench can face one another when seated. Kahlow also pointed out that there is an un-segmented bench in the vicinity of the pocket park. Kahlow said that this issue was raised at a recent WECA meeting and Charles Barber of GW agreed to look into this request. Livingstone confirmed that Barber did followup on this inquiry and it was confirmed with that GW would not be relocating the benches and that GW has already worked with the community on their arrangement. Furthermore, the un-segmented bench that is in the vicinity of the pocket park is consistent with the PUD and streetscape plans. The university only committed to segmented benches within the pocket park – not the surrounding streetscape. In a related question, Knight confirmed she had followed up via email with Dr. Kurtz of the adjacent Jefferson Condo residential building via email and confirmed with him that the university had no plans to alter the seating in the pocket park from what was installed.

2b) Updates on campus development projects:

2b i) Science and Engineering Hall/Square 55 (Completion Spring 2015): Cora said: the project is substantially complete and classes began to take place in the new building in January; streetscape work associated with this site is complete except for some remaining punch list items; the 23rd Street parking lane re-paving and associated crosswalks will be installed weather-permitting (at least 10 days of consistent temperatures above 40-50 degrees), and; interior work on the 7 and 8th floors completes summer 2016.

2b ii) Site 75A on Square 75 (Completion TBD per developer): Cora said this site was approved in the 2007 FBCP and identified as a site for either a future commercial/investment or academic/administrative/medical use and it was announced spring 2014 that Skanska is the developer for this site. Kahlow reiterated her request that Skanska meet with the community regarding potential retail on the site. Knight said there is an agreement to lease with Skanska and they have started pre-construction

work but the ground lease will not be signed until late summer and after this is signed would be the appropriate time for the community to meet with Skanska. Knight and Cora confirmed that demolition is anticipated to begin after the ground lease is signed. Knight said that GW staff would also soon be meeting with Skanska so as to confirm various community outreach efforts.

On a different topic, Kahlow asked about the recent announcement that the residential component in the southern half of the Square 54 development being sold by Boston Properties. Knight said that Boston Properties has a contract with a third party but details have not been disclosed and she is not certain as to the type of entity that will assume ownership of the residential component. Knight confirmed that Boston Properties did not initially intend to build or operate the residential component but did so when the original intended developer opted out of the project shortly before closing and it was the intention then of Boston Properties to eventually relinquish this portion of the property since the company's focus is primarily commercial, not residential.

2b iii) District House on Site 77A on Square 77 (Completion summer 2016 for Fall move-in): Cora said this residence hall, located in the center of campus between H, I, 20th and 21st Streets and is expected to open for students in fall 2016. The historic facades of West End, Schenley and Crawford Halls on the 2100 block of H and I Streets will be retained while incorporating a new infill structure between the three historic buildings (in what was previously an alley). Cora said construction is ongoing. Utility work may take place in late spring and will necessitate night work in the adjacent streets via lane closures.

2c General Campus Development Updates

2c i) Ross Hall new stair tower and utility upgrades (Completion Nov14/commissioning mid 2015): The new Research Center for Neglected Diseases of Poverty on floors 5 and 6 was completed in early 2014 and work on the Central Utility Plant (CUP) in the basement levels was substantially completed in late November 2014. Commissioning activities for the CUP will continue through mid 2015.

2c ii) GW Hillel building including associated zoning and regulatory approvals associated with GW's proposed long-term tenancy in newly proposed redeveloped GW Hillel building: Cora said GW Hillel intends to develop its property located on 23rd and H Streets to better serve its mission, and GW has agreed to lease space in the new building to support development costs for the project. The university's minor modification to its first stage PUD (part of the 2007 FBCP) to assign a campus life use designation to the Hillel site and the Hillel project is currently scheduled to be heard by the Zoning Commission April 27th.

2c iii) Hall on Virginia Avenue (HOVA) rehabilitation plan (Completion 2017): Cora said GW intends to rehabilitate the existing Hall on Virginia Avenue (HOVA) residence hall for graduate housing and to provide a new faculty housing program. Design work is continuing as scope options are explored and construction is anticipated to begin in 2015, with completion in 2017. Cora said the university would follow-up with the ANC once the design work and other project details were confirmed. Kahlow repeated her request as to if GW had found the agreement she believed between the university and Watergate West residents. Cora and Knight reconfirmed that university staff is unaware of such agreement and have looked extensively but found no record of this agreement. Kahlow asked if GW's Office of General Counsel had further checked with government officials as to the existence of records. Knight confirmed they had and, as shared at the last meeting of this group, university staff had extensively searched for these files and confirmed their original inclination that no such agreement exists.

2c iv) GW Corcoran School of Arts and Design: With regard to the historic designation, the first hearing of the Historic Preservation Review Board is scheduled for February 26 (at which time it will be procedurally reviewed) and a date for additional discussion has been scheduled March 26. There was discussion with ANC 2A as to when the university should present to the ANC and it was agreed to do this presentation at the February meeting. Cora also gave an update on the minor amendment GW filed to the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan in December and anticipates a hearing date in late spring. Kahlow asked to be informed once a hearing date has been selected.

2c v) City Hall: Knight said there will be exterior work that the landlord will be doing on the exterior of City Hall this summer and it will be noisy and take place throughout the summer. Knight said this work would likely begin after commencement with the goal being to have it substantially completed before students return. Kahlow asked that the Jefferson Condo be updated as to this work and Livingstone confirmed this would occur. Streznewski asked whether water would be used to mitigate any

dust impacts and Livingstone said it would depend on the type of work. Kennedy and Masefski asked what the hours would be for this work and Knight said she would confirm and, in a subsequent email after the meeting, it was confirmed that hours would be within the standard DC work hours of 7am-7pm Monday thru Saturday. Maddux asked as to status of DDOT's restriping of the street in front of this building and Cora agreed to raise this issue with DDOT who is responsible for this work. Maddux also asked that GW advise its waste and recycling vehicle to park as close to the curb as possible and Knight agreed to share this message.

4) OTHER CAMPUS UPDATES

Konwerski gave a general overview of beginning of semester activities. He encouraged all to stop by Colonial Health on the ground floor of Marvin Center which students seem to appreciate. He said there had been a number of welcome back events in January and that February and March would be big months for Colonials Basketball. He reminded the group that commencement activities would take place in mid-May (with main commencement activities on May 17) and GW's annual freshman orientation begins in mid June.

5) PUBLIC COMMENT /) SELECTION OF NEXT MEETING DATE

Knight shared two updates of interest to the group. She said the recently completed GW Museum and Textile Museum (built as part of the 2007 FBCP) will have a series of opening events in mid to late March and the community would be invited to some of these. And, as of Feb 1, the garage beneath the Science and Engineering Hall is the main visitor parking garage (and referred to as University Parking Garage), the Marvin Center is now for visitor parking only and the Academic Center has returned to its use as a faculty student staff garage. Knight confirmed that hospital patients and visitors are being directed to the SEH garage. Knight said GW is working on directional signage for parking as well as a lighted sign to notify parkers at nighttime since this is a 24-hour garage.

Maddux asked if GW had any reports of measles at GW and Konwerski said there had been none at this time and he confirmed students are required to have vaccinations, including international students. Streznewski asked if there was any update as to when the retail venue in the new SEH (Beefsteak) would open and it was confirmed it would be, at earliest, later in February. Maddux inquired as to the status of Abdo Development's work on renovating the Allan Lee Hotel, including the utility work in the area and Knight confirmed the university had no work being done in this area and is not involved with the hotel project. Masefski announced that RHA is in the middle of its annual Martha's Marathon fundraiser and its signature event would be on February 10, 2015 and included a number of items donated by local merchants.

With no additional comments, Waddell asked attendees for potential dates to have the next meeting of this group and it was agreed that the second quarter meeting of this group will be Monday May 18, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. unless it is needed to be held at a different time. With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.