

**MEETING NOTES for the GW/COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**(As called for in the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan, Condition P-7)**  
**Meeting #34/Quarter 1/March 7, 2016 – 6:30 pm in Duques Hall (2201 G Street) Room 320**

**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; Mark Levine, Senior Associate Dean of Students; and Bridgette Behling Director of Off Campus Student Affairs in lieu of Stephanie Sarvana, Assistant Director for Community Support and Leadership who is on maternity leave. Following this, attendees introduced themselves, including: Foggy Bottom Association President Marina Streznewski; Advisory Neighborhood Commissioners (ANC) Patrick Kennedy, Peter Sacco, Philip Schreffer and Eve Zhurbinskiy; ANC Executive Director Peter Sacco; West End Citizen's Association members Barbara Kahlow and Sara Maddux; Foggy Bottom neighbor Susan Armbruster; GW staff members Kurt Hiatt, Richard Livingstone, John Ralls, and Eric Selbst.

**2)=Campus Plan and campus development updates**

**2a)=Other 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan initiatives -- 2ai)=Historic Preservation Plan:** GW has complied with historic preservation requirements as part of the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan (2007 FBCP). **2aii)=Foggy Bottom Campus Streetscape Plan:** Streetscape at District House will be upgraded this spring.

**2b)=Updates on campus development projects**

**2ai)=Site 75A on Square 75 (Completion per developer):** This site is a commercial investment property located on Pennsylvania Avenue between 21st and 22nd Streets. The site was approved in the 2007 FBCP and identified as a site for either a future commercial/investment or academic/administrative/medical use. Skanska is the developer for this site, now known as 2112 Pennsylvania Ave and is responsible for demolition and construction scheduling activities. The rowhouses on Pennsylvania Avenue have been demolished. A new stair tower that serves 2100East has been installed and the remainder of 2100West is now being demolished. The GW maintenance building, known as Building EE has been demolished. Interior demolition of the Eye Street properties has begun. The remaining demolition is on hold until District House activity clears up on Eye Street. Limited excavation, layback, and underpinning activities have begun the Medical Faculty Associate building. 2112 Penn is expected to deliver in the second quarter of 2018.

The renovation of three F Street townhouses for affordable housing was an amenity linked to the development of Site 75A. The properties are 2142, 2146 and 2150 F Street and will contain a total of 7 units. GW is in the process of selecting a certified broker that will market the property and manage the leasing. The units will be marketed and leased in accordance with DC's District Housing and Community Development (DHCD) requirements (including an 80% AMI), marketed via DHCD's Housing Locator website, and made available through their lottery system. The renovations are expected to be completed in summer 2016. Maddux asked about recent repair work being done in the 2100 block of F Street and asked if GW would confirm this is not related to any GW work and it was confirmed this was not related to GW projects.

**2aii)=Site 77A on Square 77 – District House Residence Hall (Completion summer 2016 for Fall move-in):** This residence hall, located in the center of campus between H and I and 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> streets is expected to open for students in fall 2016. Historic facades of West End, Schenley and Crawford Halls on the 2100 block of H and I Streets have been retained while incorporating a new infill structure between the three historic buildings. Construction is well underway and on target for opening in fall 2016. The H Street covered sidewalk has been removed while work at the front of the building is completed. The exterior walls are fully enclosed and interior fit-out will complete this spring. And, as previously reported and somewhat associated with this project, GW has waived its right to extend its lease at City Hall/St. James and will be vacating the building following the academic year. Knight said proposals were submitted for the retail venues in District House and are being reviewed but there are not currently signed leases. She said there will likely be one venue on the first floor and four or five on the lower level and all will likely be food related. In response to questions regarding timing, Knight said she is hopeful the leases will be signed by summer.

**2c)=General GW updates**

**2ci)=GW Hillel building including associated zoning and regulatory approvals associated with GW's proposed long-term tenancy in newly proposed developed GW Hillel building:** 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 was approved by the Zoning Commission on November 9, 2015.

**2cii)=Hall on Virginia Avenue:** As the community is aware, GW has been pursuing a project to construct graduate and faculty housing at this location. Selective demolition and abatement of interior spaces has occurred. During this time, GW has received a number of inquiries from entities interested in purchasing the building, and as such, the university has decided to explore the sale of the building. GW has retained a broker, CBRE, to assist with pursuing potential buyers of the HOVA property. At this time, onsite tours are taking place as needed. GW continues to monitor the site regularly to ensure the site is secure and free from debris. In response to Kahlow's question of when she would be informed as to the status of this project, Knight said no offers had been received but it is anticipated that GW will know in late spring as to the future of this property.

**2ciii)=GW Corcoran College of Art and Design:** In May 2015 the Zoning Commission heard and approved GW's request for a modification to the 2007 FBCP. This request asked the Commission to allow GW to account for Corcoran students who either take classes or live in GW housing on the Foggy Bottom campus. GW's caps on students and faculty staff remain as were outlined in the 2007 FBCP. The interior historic designation was deliberated by HPRB on February 26<sup>th</sup>. GW will undertake phased work to bring the structure up to code and HVAC modernization while working with the Historic Preservation Office to retain significance of designated historic areas. This summer GW will commence another phase of the renovation of the Corcoran. Activities will include remediation of the stone facades, an accessible ramp on the New York Avenue entrance and roofing repairs. The new director for the Corcoran School is Sanjit Sethi who came to us from the Santa Fe Art Institute and GW is working to finalize the program for the future renovations of the building based upon further input from him and his engagement with faculty/others. Once the program is established, timelines for further renovation work will be available.

### **3)=Other campus updates/Recent/upcoming major campus activities**

On March 9, GW's Dean of Students will be hosting its Off Campus Student Association which will be preceded by a seminar on how to live off campus; March 14-18 is GW's spring break; April 2 is GW's annual Spring Fling which will be from 4:30-apx. 8:30pm; End of year activities include last day of classes on Monday April 25; final exams end May 10; Commencement is May 15.

### **4)=Public Comments**

Kahlow asked if GW had taken a position on the Council's recent legislation regarding the status of police officers working at universities. While GW is a member of the Consortium of Universities and, as such, has worked with them on this legislation and continues to be supportive of the ability for its officers to serve off campus, the university has not taken a position on this bill. Streznewski noted the March 22, 2016 hearing has been cancelled until further notice and until a new hearing date is established.

Kennedy asked about the snow event in January and said GW has traditionally been a good neighbor in regard to this event and asked if a change in resources/staffing power were the reason why GW wasn't as robust in this regard as with previous years. Knight said it was due to the historically large amount of snow and the lack of transportation resources (the closing of Metro/no public transit meant the same staff was responsible for working this event all weekend). Knight said several areas had been identified for improvement in future similar weather events and the areas which GW treated and clean snow to the pavement were in better shape than the sidewalks which were traveled upon during or shortly after snowfall since that snow become packed/hardened and was very difficult to remove. In response to Sacco's question about a recent article in a recent online blog about treatment of workers during the snow event, Knight said these accounts had many errors – specifically related to lack of food during the events (GW actually provided hot meals via buffet style for all meals) and sleeping arrangements (cots and sleeping areas were provided for all on-campus staff). Zhurbinskiy asked about the article's allegation that workers were paid minimum wage and Knight said that while she cannot confirm the rate of pay for each individual staff member she does know they are paid from the time they show up on campus until they leave and they are being paid overtime.

Steznewski asked if GW could provide contact information as to the owners of City Hall so as to ensure that in future events the sidewalks are cleared and Knight agreed to try and find a contact for future events. Maddux asked about what she perceives as GW President Knapp's making subtle references to a desire to raise the cap on student enrollment t and expressed her strong opposition to raising this cap before the end of the 20-year timeframe of the 2007 FBCP.

There was a general discussion as to concerns about bicyclists in the neighborhood and it was discussed with Maddux and Streznewski how GW could take a more active role in promoting safety and safe riding tips (including not riding on sidewalk).

### **5)=Selection of date for meeting #35 of this group in 2nd quarter (April/June) of 2016**

With no additional comments, Waddell asked attendees for potential dates to have the next meeting of this group and it was agreed that the 2016 first quarter meeting of this group would be Monday June 13, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. unless needed at a different time. With no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.