

**GW COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
(Per Condition P-7 of the *2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan*)  
**Meeting Minutes**

Meeting #43 (Quarter 2) – Room 220 Fungler Hall  
Monday, May 14, 2018 @ 6:30 pm

**1.-Welcome & Introductions**

The meeting opened at 6:30 p.m. with introductions of individuals supporting GW for the Advisory Committee, including: Susi Cora, GW Director of Campus Planning; Alicia Knight, Senior Associate Vice President for Operations; Bridgette Behling, Director, Center for Student Engagement; Kevin Days, Director of Community Relations. GW staff attendees were Maralee Csellar and John Ralls; The Foggy Bottom Advisory Neighborhood Commission (ANC 2A) was represented by Vice Chair Patrick Kennedy; The West End Citizens Association (WECA) was represented by Barbara Kahlow and Sara Maddux; the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) was represented by Marina Streznewski; and Foggy Bottom residents included David Ballif, Steve Charnowitz and Bob Moore.

**2.-Campus Plan and campus development updates**

**2a.-Other 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan initiatives:** *i.-Historic Preservation Plan:* As previously reported GW has complied with historic preservation requirements as part of the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan (2007 FBCP). *ii.-Foggy Bottom Campus Streetscape Plan:* Streetscape improvements on the west side of 23rd between G and H Streets are nearly complete. The tree boxes will be modified in coming months to correct a fabrication error.

**2b.-Updates on campus development projects:**

**2bi.-Site 75A on Square 75 (2112 Penn Ave):** This site is a commercial investment property located on Pennsylvania Avenue between 21st and 22nd Streets being developed by Skanska USA and expected to deliver in the third quarter of 2018. The project is continuing on schedule and they expect to receive a Certificate of Occupancy within coming days. Build-out has begun by law firm Cleary Gottlieb to relocate from 2000 Penn to this building. Skanska has indicated that they have signed a lease for the commercial space in this building and have started paperwork for an Alcohol Beverage Control license. The neighbors in attendance shared support for the ABC application's details of a dining concept with night-time hours and a sidewalk café so as to increase pedestrian accessibility in the area. It was also noted that Boston Properties will be at the Foggy Bottom ANC 2A meeting on May 16 to discuss streetscape improvements associated with this project. Streznewski shared concerns with the implementation of sidewalk closures associated with the project the previous weekend and Cora said she would share this concern with Skanska.

**2bii.-Site 75B on Square 75 (2100 Penn Ave):** This project and the campus plan amendment were approved by the DC Zoning Commission on February 12, 2018. Rice Hall staff will be relocated by the end of 2018 and 2100 Penn will be vacated mid 2019. Old Main on F Street is where a large number of Rice Hall staff will relocate to this building and it is currently under interior renovation as is 1918 F Street (former offices for Alumni Relations). Kennedy shared that the concerns he had heard several weeks ago from several residents about the reverse indicator warning sounds of brakes from early morning trucks have now subsided – Knight share that these trucks have now been asked to turn off these sounds once on site. Kahlow asked as to where the Capital Bikeshare kiosk at 21<sup>st</sup> and Eye Street would be relocated to and Knight shared that her impression was that Boston Properties would be discussing this at the ANC meeting as well as other streetscape improvements. Kennedy asked if there were any additional updates as to potentially relocating the barber shop in 2100 Penn to 2000 Penn and Knight said there are still ongoing active conversations on this topic.

**2c.-General GW updates**

**2ci.-GW Hillel including zoning and regulatory approvals associated with GW's proposed long-term tenancy in proposed developed GW Hillel building** – As presented at last quarter's meeting Hillel's

team continues to work through discussions with the community and DC agencies in the development of their new building. Kahlow shared that they had successfully negotiated with the project to address most of the issues raised by the community. Kennedy asked Knight if GW is reconsidering if it would relocate student uses in this building, Knight clarified that since the building footprint has been reduced the university is still looking to see what uses would fit in this space and share them at the Zoning Commission hearing scheduled for July 16, 2018 but that the current work to explore uses for this site only includes functions that align with GW's original agreement to have student use be the primary function of the offices GW will locate in this space. Kennedy also requested that GW attend the June meeting of ANC 2A when this project will be further discussed.

**2cii.-2000 Penn** -- Knight said that as she shared in recent meetings, GW went to the market last fall for a development project to ground lease 2000 Penn and this work continues. Knight said that since this is building is an operating asset with tenants there are no plans in the near-term future for redevelopment of the site. She added that the transfer, once agreement on terms are confirmed, will take place quickly so she wanted to ensure the community is fully aware this may take place. Knight said she is pleased as to the potential for creating a new vision and reinvigorating retail at this space. Kennedy asked as to status of Duke's Grocery new location opening in the former Kinkead's Restaurant space and Knight said the tenant is actively working on design issues and would know in near future if they would be able to meet their original anticipated schedule of opening by the end of the year.

**2ciii. Proposed new residence hall on Square 101** -- Knight said GW issued \$795 million in debt to refinance existing debt and to finance several initiatives of the new GW president, including a new residence hall on Square 101. Knight clarified that since this project does not have approval from GW's Board of Trustees she had not announced this at the previous meeting of this group. She added that it has been practice for these projects to be shared with community once they have been fully approved by the Board but due to several factors this particular project was included in a GW Today story before ample notice had been given to the community. Knight said she expects this project to receive approval at the May meeting of GW's Board of Trustees. Kennedy asked as to GW President LeBlanc's intended use for this building and Knight shared that LeBlanc has spoken many times as to the need to improve the experience of freshman living on campus (including both via creation of new residence hall spaces and renovating existing freshmen halls, particularly Thurston Hall) so it is likely this hall will be for underclass students. Knight said the approximate 330+ students that could live on this site.

Kennedy also asked if GW would exercise its option to purchase back the World Bank Building at 600 19<sup>th</sup> Street in Square 121 (which GW sold to the World Bank in 1982) when it arises in 2022 and Knight said this had not been a part of the discussion of a new residence hall.

**2civ.-GW summer projects** – Cora gave an update on several major projects the university will undertake during the upcoming summer recess:

- Madison Hall - bathroom renovations, faculty apartment upgrades, elevator replacement, fire alarm/sprinkler upgrade, preventative maintenance.
- Munson Hall - mechanical upgrades, window replacement, bathroom upgrades, preventative maintenance.
- Guthridge and Strong Halls - paint, and/or flooring, preventative maintenance.
- Samson Academic Building will complete in late June.
- H Street Crosswalk -- Cora shared that GW has submitted for permit a new mid-block H Street crossing between District House and Kogan Plaza that would create a 57' wide crosswalk that included two 15-foot wide pedestrian crossings with a space in-between for an expanded crossing area. Cora said one of the benefits of the wider crosswalk is that foodtrucks could not park legally within the crosswalk area thus improving pedestrian and vehicular visibility. Kennedy asked if a raised crosswalk would be considered for this area and expressed his support for this approach so as to reduce vehicle speeds and also further discourage food trucks from parking in this area. Cora shared that DDOT has previously not been supportive of this approach for a variety of reasons, one of which was how to allow for stormwater drainage. Cora said she was hoping to appear at the June ANC 2A meeting since GW is hoping to construct this project during the summer. Kennedy asked for GW to share in writing their intention to pursue this project and also any applicable drawings.

**2cv. Potential closures of sidewalks, vehicular lanes:**

- To accommodate a crane needed to deliver materials needed for renovations to the Science and Engineering Hall's green roof, a portion of 23<sup>rd</sup> Street adjacent the building will be closed during the day and more details would be shared with the community as soon as they were available.
- There will be a temporary street & sidewalk closure affecting the 500 block of 20th Street and 2000 block of F Street on June 2 to facilitate renovations at Old Main and Francis Scott Key Hall. Knight said she was reviewing a plan to reduce impacts and it would be shared with the community within a few days as to this closure.
- As part of GW's ongoing annual renovations at certain residence halls, a portion of the parking lane adjacent the front of Strong Hall will be closed 7am-5pm on May 30, 31 as well as a scheduled construction lane closure at Guthridge Hall.

### **3-Campus Plan and campus development updates**

**3a.-Other campus updates:** Behling shared the following campus updates:

- Commencement on May 20, Summer Session I May 21-6/3
- Summer Session II 7/2-8/11
- Colonial Inauguration for incoming freshmen will be June 11-12, 14-15, 18-19, 21-22, 25-26, 28-29 and August 23-24, 25
- On April 25 and May 7 information was shared with students as to end of year protocol for trash removal, move out, using 311 to haul garbage, and that is listed on website as well
- Memorial Day messages will go out on May 22 regarding holiday and trash regulations and how this could impact trash pickup. Similar messaging will go out around July 4 as well as information about various July 4 activities around the city to encourage good choices and behavior.

### **4-Public Comments**

Kahlow asked as to the status to a tent that had been erected in the backyard of an off-campus residence (2522 Eye Street). Streznewski shared that this property is being used by Rabbi Steiner and the tent allows for Shabat services and her understanding is that Steiner is trying to have the tent come into compliance. Knight said she would confirm her understanding that the university does not have an interest in or ownership of the property and the university does not have any official affiliation with this site since it is not an officially recognized student organization. Knight said if it is confirmed that the university does not have any connections with this entity or its operations/activities that occur on the site, then it would not be in a position to intervene.

During discussion of new residence hall on Square 101, Kennedy shared his desire for frequent updates to the community for times in-between the quarterly meetings and Knight agreed that this is an ongoing priority and GW would look to see as to how we could enhance the existing frameworks including updates by GW's Office of Community Relations which regularly attends ANC 2A and other neighborhood community meetings. Also, Kahlow asked as to the status of GW's comments on proposed campus plan changes. Knight said it is her understanding that GW is not withdrawing its comments but clarified these were policy related comments and not a desire to change our existing commitments with student enrollment caps. Knight also said that she does recognize the university should have shared with the community in advance that it submitted these comments but reiterated that these comments were consistent with many previous statements made by university and should in no way be construed to mean GW would not abide by its current campus plan commitments. Kennedy also suggested further discussion with the community on the topic of student enrollment cap in the future and Knight said she would share these ideas back with GW staff.

### **5.-Selection of date for meeting #43 of this group in 3rd quarter (July-September) of 2018**

The date selection was tentatively confirmed for the standard meeting time of holding meeting before a monthly ANC 2A meeting, in this case Monday September 17, 2018 in advance of the ANC's September 20, 2018 meeting. With no further comments the meeting was adjourned.