

**Meeting Minutes for meeting #46 (Quarter 1) of  
GW Community Advisory Committee (aka Campus Plan Advisory Committee/CPAC)  
Room 101 Corcoran Hall on Monday, March 18, 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: Alicia Knight, Senior Associate Vice President for Operations; Associate Dean of Students Colette Coleman; Susi Cora, Director of Campus Planning; Christine Anthony, GW's Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities; 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 Commissioner James Harnett and Vice Chair Patrick Kennedy; The West End Citizens Association (WECA) was represented by Sara Maddux; and, the Foggy Bottom Association was represented by President Marina Streznewski.

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

**2ai.-Historic Preservation Plan:** As previously reported GW has complied with historic preservation requirements as part of the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan (2007 FBCP).

**2aii.-Foggy Bottom Campus Streetscape Plan:** Cora said she did not have an update but has noted some striping on the H Street crosswalk that needs retouching.

**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 was delivered earlier this year. Skanska has announced that North Italia (an upscale Italian restaurant) and Flower Child (more informal with menu options including organic, gluten-free, and vegetarian/vegan dishes) have both opened in this building. Also, the law firm of Cleary Gottlieb will relocate from 2000 Penn to this building.

**2bii.-Site 75B on Square 75 (2100 Penn Ave):** The development consists of a 420,000 square foot trophy office building and 30,000 square feet of neighborhood-serving retail. Rice Hall staff will be relocated by the end of 2018 and 2100 Penn will be vacated mid 2019. 1922 F Street (formerly known as Old Main) is where a large number of Rice Hall staff were relocated in early 2019 as well as 1918 F Street (former offices for Alumni Relations). There are no updates as to potential new retail at this site as it is too early in the process.

**2c-GW On-Campus Summer Project Renovations/Work:** Cora said six buildings will be included in the summer program and include selected window replacement at Munson and Fulbright, full window replacement at FSK and other buildings getting improvements such as HVAC upgrades and bathroom improvements. Additionally, there will be work throughout campus academic buildings including

**3=Overview of GW's planning for renovations of Thurston Hall**

Knight began the presentation by noting that at the last Advisory meeting it was shared GW is looking at housing for first year students including both a new residence hall at 20<sup>th</sup> and H Streets to house apx. 320+ students and a future renovation of Thurston Hall. Knight said that since the last meeting, GW President LeBlanc has decided that improving the student experience and, in particular, the experience of first year students would be better enhanced by focusing solely on the renovation of Thurston Hall. As such, the university has suspended efforts for the proposed Square 101A residence hall at 20<sup>th</sup> & H Streets and is solely focused on the renovation of Thurston Hall in order to make improvements to the first-year student experience. The following information and responses during an extended discussion with meeting attendees:

- GW has no intention of asking for relief from enrollment cap or any other Campus Plan commitments.
- The number of required beds is calculated on the number of full time (FT) undergraduates. The requirement is to house 70% of students up to an enrollment of 5,600 FT undergraduate students and then 1 bed for every additional student over 5,600. This currently yields a blended 74% of FT undergraduates housed. Under the temporary Thurston renovation period this percentage would be approximately 70% of FT undergraduates housed.

- This project necessitates an interim housing plan that seeks to 1) be least disruptive and 2) use the most GW-based resources. In order to achieve this goal GW wishes to:
  - Continue to house first and second year students on campus
  - House these students through increases such as moving doubles to triples where capacity exists
  - Ask for relief from Campus Plan conditions so that 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year undergraduate students could be housed at The Aston (currently graduate housing) and utilize One Washington Circle to temporarily accommodate students in a long-term stay type of arrangement
  - Include 2<sup>nd</sup> year students at 1959 E Street which currently is limited to 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year students
- GW is currently working on the design and the renovation schedule, but it is early so no definite plans have been established. The potential for improvements to the center courtyard have been discussed.
- The GW Board of Trustees has not yet approved the project in its entirety but current updates to the Board have been favorably received and full Board approval is anticipated at their May meeting.
- Commissioner Kennedy asked if the renovation was a “total gut” and Knight compared it to the renovation of Lafayette Hall where modernization of elevators and utilities occurred, and rooms were reconfigured.
- Architect interviews have taken place and GW will know better what the renovation might achieve in 3-4 weeks.
- Thurston is a contributing building to the historic district so there are limits to what may be changed to the exterior of the building. Given this, an initial meeting with DC’s Office of Planning and its Historic Preservation staff will soon be scheduled. One concept is not a substantial change but will explore alterations to the south façade adjacent to Mitchell to allow for more light into the structure— also a concept that looked at removal of the berms of the building to allow more light in and activate more of the outdoor space
- A General Contractor is not yet selected but it is expected that work will take place Monday through Saturdays throughout the project duration. Some discussions are taking place to see if there is any renovation work that could be done prior to May 2020.
- It was proposed that 1959 E St’s PUD be permanently modified to allow 2<sup>nd</sup> year students to live at the residence hall. Sara Maddux said GW should continue to only house juniors and seniors at this location. Knight said because of GW’s self-imposed 3<sup>rd</sup> year residence requirement, the university is proposing this change to provide flexibility as enrollment fluctuates making logistics cumbersome.
- Marina Streznewski asked for clarification on what students live in Aston Hall and Knight confirmed that it currently houses a mix of approximately half graduate students and half law school students. She added that there were nine vacant rooms this year in the Aston that were used to temporarily house undergraduate students displaced when a major pipe burst occurred in Guthridge Hall.
- Commissioner Harnett shared that GW engaged Brailsford & Dunleavy to develop an initial program for the renovation. The architect selection committee included two student representatives. Once an architect is under contract focus groups and student engagement sessions will commence similar to how GW has done with previous projects.
- Kennedy asked if GW students will occupy all of One Washington Circle Hotel and Knight confirmed that it is anticipated the students will hotel at the entire facility and the management company will continue to manage operations since the university does not intend to transition this building to residential student housing. It is also anticipated that the restaurant will continue to be open to the public. Generally, the room capacity is two students per room.
- In response to a question from Kennedy, Knight said that while GW still has a limited partnership at Columbia Plaza it does not plan to sue this for undergraduate being relocated due to this project.
- Knight said that after anticipated Board of Trustees approval in May, a Zoning application for Thurston further processing and housing relief and it is anticipated that the notice of intent would go out in beginning of April.
- At this time, the university needs agreement on zoning relief by next February to align with housing assignments.

- In response to a question from Kennedy as to potential environmental remediation, Knight confirmed this project would undergo initial testing and appropriate remediation measures would be taken.
- Streznewski asked the university to not make the balconies operational while students are using the building.

#### **4=Additional campus updates**

In response to a question about monitoring conduct of off-campus students, Christine Anthony, GW's Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities said GW continues to address misconduct by off-campus students and have resolved many in both Foggy Bottom and also Georgetown.

Associate Dean of Student Coleman said the annual Off Campus Student Housing Fair was held on February 5 and included information on how to be a good neighbor. Coleman also shared information regarding upcoming spring student activities including: April 12 – Spring Fling in University Yard; April 27 – spring fling in Smith Center; April 29 last day of spring classes; May 1 makeup; May 2 and 3 = reading day; May 6-14 finals; May 19-comencement on the mall.

Coleman also noted that first year orientation (previously known as Colonial Inauguration) has moved from June to August and that some of move-in would occur on a weekday – given the logistics of doing move in on workday is very different from a weekend, the university is working to mitigate any potential traffic/pedestrian impacts. It was agreed further information about this would be shared at the next meeting of this group.

Streznewski said she has been working with GW and DC's Office of Clean City to coordinate a May 9 "clean up" day where DC Government brings a roll-off dumpster for bulk disposals and GW would collect donations of re-useable items as part of its annual Green Move Out program in its residence halls which collect tens of thousands of items each year as students are leaving their residence hall at end of the academic year for donation to local charities.

Knight shared an additional GW update regarding the liquor license the university has historically had at Marvin Center. Since the university removed catered food services in 2016, this license has been in safekeeping but now GW is seeking to transfer this license to the Smith Center so there would be potential for concessions at events such as Parents/Alumni Weekend or when major sporting events are held at the Center. She said that the multi-purpose liquor license at Marvin Center also allowed for sales of spirits/liquor but the focus at Smith Center would be beer and wine. She added that this request would be made in coming months, but she wanted to share now with this group.

#### **5=Public Comments**

Maddux shared several items including: Her concern that DC Government's proposed creation of a dedicated bicycle lane might not leave enough room at 21<sup>st</sup> and G Streets; a reiteration of previous request for tour groups to be mindful of other pedestrians and leave enough room on the sidewalks; a request for information to be shared regarding street closures related to graduation.

With regards to selection of date for meeting #47 of this group in 2nd quarter (April-June) of 2019, it was decided to continue with the standard meeting time of holding meeting before a monthly ANC 2A meeting, in this case Monday June 17, 2019 in advance of the ANC's June 19, 2019 meeting. With no further comments the meeting was adjourned.