

**Meeting Minutes for meeting #49 (Quarter 4) of the
Campus Plan Advisory Committee/CPAC
Room 303 Tompkins Hall on Monday, November 18, 2019 @ 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: Christine Anthony, Director of GW's Office of Student Rights & Responsibilities; Susi Cora, Director of Campus Planning; Kevin Days, Director of Community Relations; Alicia Knight, Senior Associate Vice President for Operations, and; Seth Weinshel, Assistant Dean of Students in Campus Living and Residential Engagement. GW staff attendees were Maralee Csellar of Media Relations, John Ralls of Facilities Planning, Construction and Management, and Gabrielle Sosa of Community Relations; GW students attending were Samira Carter, Cole Christian, and Nina Clark; Foggy Bottom Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A was represented by ANC207 Commissioner Detrick Campbell and DeANC2A08 Commissioner James Harnett; The West End Citizens Association (WECA) was represented by President Sara Maddux, Vice President Barbara Kahlow and board member Chris Brick; Foggy Bottom Association President was represented by Marina Streznewski; Lia DeGroot of the GW Hatchet newspaper was also in attendance.

2=Campus Plan and campus development updates

2a. Other 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan Initiatives: Historic Preservation Plan: As previously reported GW has complied with historic preservation requirements as part of the 2007 Foggy Bottom Campus Plan (2007 FBCP). **Foggy Bottom Campus Streetscape Plan:** No updates and the university continues to be in compliance.

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

Cora shared a preview of the presentation which will be shared at the upcoming ANC 2A meeting and noted it was similar to previous presentations. Highlights included:

- Renderings of current and proposed courtyards, including potential landscaping in courtyard;
- Building height remains the same 86.5' and gross floor area (GFA) will decrease due to notch at the south side of the building;
- So as to preserve historic integrity of façade, the rear notch of the building will continue to have brick façade on one level of the notch and then a gridded open air on upper floors;
- Public Space elements;
- New expanded main entrance lobby;
- Adding penthouse to roof for student gathering, study as well as a roof canopy to cover the courtyard.

Discussion after the presentation included the following highlights:

- Campbell asked if the courtyard area would have netting on canopy to keep out insects and if the space could be enclosed during winter -- Cora said no since the goal was to allow for fresh air in the courtyard. Campbell also asked if lobby features such as security desk would remain (yes) and if the pylons will look the same as existing pylons (that will depend on upcoming discussions on an update to the Streetscape Plan);
- Harnett confirmed solar panels are anticipated for the rooftop and also LEED certification goal is for silver. He also asked about maintaining sidewalk access during the construction and Cora said that a plan is forthcoming.

Cora noted the Zoning Commission hearing for Thurston Hall will be on December 2, 2019.

4=Additional campus updates

4a) Smith Center Basketball practice court – Days said that a project to create a dedicated men/women's practice facility emerged during the fall GW Board of Trustees meeting with a goal it will enable the ongoing efforts to enhance student living. This addition will not impact community and should only require an expansion of 12' to existing floorplate. Anticipated filing of the project is 12-12-19 with a goal of having this presented to ANC 2A in January. The current pool will be filled in to create a new training court, Cora said

GW Athletics is working with the aquatic teams to coordinate relocation efforts for training and competition space.

4b) Pedestrian/vehicular access in mid-block alley (between F & G Streets and 20th & 21st Streets) – Cora said that with the addition of food trucks and seating area in the former surface parking lot adjacent this alley, there has been a notable increase in pedestrian traffic and the university is exploring options as to how to better enhance safety for pedestrians including a potential dedicated pedestrian pathway. Maddux said she felt this alley had been designed for pedestrian access but Cora noted that this has been a vehicular and pedestrian public alley long before the current buildings were constructed.

4c) Update regarding GW's fall activities + other Important dates/upcoming campus -- Weinshel said that final exams would begin in the first week of December and continue through December 20. Students will begin returning January 6 with most returning the weekend before the first day of classes for spring semester on January 13. He said there would only be a turnover of apx. 300 students so this should not present the same challenges as fall move-in. Anthony said that given recent Halloween holiday and upcoming winter break, her office continues to message with off-campus students as to their responsibilities. Anthony agreed to Streznewski's request to remind off-campus students that it is illegal to use a neighbor's trash receptacle.

4d) Update on this weekend's fire at Thurston Hall: Due to a sprinkler that activated this weekend, apx. 40 students were placed in alternative housing but most returned today and the remaining students should return tomorrow. Campbell asked if Thurston's fire systems had been updated and Weinshel responded they were replaced in recent years and were up to code.

5=Public Comments/Selection of upcoming meeting dates

Maddux shared that the trees in Anniversary Park are at peak autumn color transition. Maddux also requested that an update be given regarding the affordable housing on F Street that was created as an amenity for the 2112 Pennsylvania Avenue project and Days said he would share this information with her. Maddux also expressed her continued displeasure with the proliferation of motorized scooters on campus sidewalks as well as a need for additional parking spaces for this area. It was shared that DDOT share an update with ANC2A and also consider proposals for areas such as scooter "parklets" or dedicated parking areas.

Kahlow asked for Days to see if GW would clarify its earlier comments encouraging removal of caps on student enrollments and Days said he would follow-up.

Cora confirmed that given Knight's planned spring departure from GW, she would be replaced by David Dent, Associate Vice President for Facilities Planning, Construction and Management who reports to Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Mark Diaz. It was also confirmed that Weinshel would be attending in place of Associate Dean of Students Colette Coleman.

Harnett said SWW Principal Richard Trogisch had confirmed the school is hoping to find additional bike parking due to the increased popularity of this as a transportation option. Harnett said he had also talked with Scott Burnotes of GW AVP for Safety and Security as to how/if members of GW's Police Department should be trained to issue stop work orders for after-work hours that had not been permitted in conjunction with DC Government.

With no additional comments it was confirmed that meeting #50 of this group for the 1st quarter (Jan-March) 2020 meeting will be held January 14, 2020 instead of the previously considered February 18, 2020. This change is being made to ensure the community can review the proposed plans for the addition to the Smith Center before it is presented at the January ANC 2A meeting. The proposed date discussed at the 09-16-20 meeting for the 2nd quarter (April-June) 2020 meeting will continue to be on June 15, 2020.