

## American University Neighborhood Liaison Committee Meeting

Mary Graydon Center, Room 200  
7:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 15, 2009

### MEETING NOTES

#### ATTENDANCE

##### Neighborhood & Community Representatives:

1. Anthony Byrne TCNA
2. David Fehrmann Westover Place
3. Mary Ellen Fehrmann Westover Place
4. Matt Frumin ANC3E
5. Samantha Green AU student
6. Robert Herzstein Spring Valley
7. Andy MacCracken AU Student Government
8. Lee Minichiello ANC3D
9. Philip Mitchell AU Park
10. Susan Mitchell AU Park
11. Alan Pollock Ft. Gaines
12. Betsy Sandza ANC 3D01
13. Tom Smith ANC 3D02
14. Benjamin Tessler Westover Place

##### AU Representatives:

1. David Taylor, Chief of Staff, Office of the President
2. Jorge Abud, Assistant VP, Facilities & Administrative Services
3. Penny Pagano, Director, Community and Local Government Relations
4. Rob Hradsky, Dean of Students
5. Sara Waldron, Associate Dean of Students
6. Michael McNair, Director of Public Safety
7. Walter Labitzky, Director of Facilities, Washington College of Law
8. Maria Pahigiannis, Projects Coordinator, Office of the President
9. Imani Kane, AU Housing & Dining

##### 1. Introductions

##### 2. Old Business

- Sara Waldron, Associate Dean of Students, met with the students living in the house on Sedgwick to speak to them about their responsibility to be a good neighbor.
- The gate behind Nebraska Hall was not closing properly. Chief McNair will continue to monitor the gate, but believes it is now working well.

##### 3. Facilities

- SIS Building – it is still on track for completion in May 2010

- Kreeger – is undergoing renovations for the economics and physics departments. It should be completed by March 2010.
- Summer Retail Changes – there is a new Tex-Mex restaurant on campus as well as a couple of new “grab-and-go” locations.
- Balducci’s – the space previously occupied by Balducci’s remains vacant.
  - There are simply no grocers/markets presently interested in leasing the space. My Organic Market (MOMs) is the only option still in conversations with AU. As such, part of the space will now be offered to other types of food establishments.
  - The vacant space is about 15-16,000s sq ft. 10,000 sq ft ideally will be dedicated to a market and 5,000-6,000 sq ft to food outlets.

#### 4. Campus News & Updates

- **Campus Population** – see the attached Population Summary handout

#### 5. Parking and Traffic

- Students have been parking on the 4600 block of Rodman Street.
- Neighbors requested that AU ticket along Massachusetts Avenue, outside of Westover, as students have been parking there illegally.
- Parking fees:
  - \$946/year for students
  - \$12/day for “pay-as-you-go”
  - The neighbors feel that these fees are too high and that they encourage students to park illegally in the neighborhoods.

#### 6. Student Issues & Housing

- 4301 43<sup>rd</sup> Street: this is a problem house in Tenley. The students have been having large parties.
- Berkshires: AU will continue leasing approximately 60 apartments until additional housing is built (e.g. until Clark/Roper/Gray are converted back to housing).
  - Neighbors would like to know the total number of AU students living in the Berkshires including those who have signed leases independently of the University.
  - Neighbors have observed an increase in noise and litter along Massachusetts Ave, as well as more bicycles and scooters chained to posts.
  - Neighbors would like AU Public Safety to patrol the area between the Berkshires and campus.
  - Chief McNair explained that MPD prohibits AU from patrolling off-campus. He urged neighbors to call Public Safety, with as many details as possible, as soon as incidents occur so that they can respond immediately.
  - Public Safety’s number are:
    - Emergency: 202-885-3636
    - Non-emergency: 202-885-2527
  - Neighbors were invited to attend a meeting for the students living in the Berkshires (Friday, September 18, 2009 at 5:00pm in McDowell Formal Lounge) so that they could address the aforementioned issues.

## 7. New Business

- Update on Army Corps Cleanup
  - **4825 Glenbrook Road**—Work was suspended in August to address the discovery of a small quantity of chemical warfare agent (mustard) while the Army Corps was digging in the backyard of this university-owned house. The Corps has created a new work plan for the site, which includes a “vapor containment structure” under which future digging will occur (and which is similar to what was there previously). When work resumes, “shelter-in-place” protocols will be established for those properties closest to the site. This will not affect the main AU campus.
  - **4835 Glenbrook Road** (President’s House)—The property was returned to American University earlier this year for use as the president’s house.
  - **Public Safety Building**—The Corps continues to dig for World War I–era debris (glassware, lab ware, and ceramics) in the ravine behind the building and will do so until the soil is free of debris. Following this, horizontal drilling will be done underneath the building to assess if anything of interest is beneath the structure.
  - **Other Campus Areas**—Based on curiosity aroused by some 1920s-era photos, the Corps dug trenches on the Nebraska Parking Lot and in the Osborn-Beechly building yard areas but found no World War I–era debris. The Corps did a similar operation in the radio tower area and found some glassware and debris that is being assessed for relevance; they may return to this area after doing a similar trenching operation in the Reeves soccer field area in late December or January.
  - **Eleanor Holmes Norton** – Would like to hold a meeting on September 29, 2009, which is the same day as the next Campus Plan Task Force Meeting. The neighbors requested that AU not change the date of the Campus Plan meeting and ask the Congresswoman to find an alternate date.

## 8. Other Business

- The neighbors thanked AU for hosting the Farmer’s Market.

**AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**  
**Campus Plan**  
**Population Summary 2009**

<b>Student Enrollment Headcount</b>		<b>Housing</b>	
Undergraduate	6,137	Full-time Freshman Enrollment	1,690
Graduate	3,603	Full-time Sophomore Enrollment	1,740
Other	766	Subtotal	3,430
Total	10,506	Full-time Junior Enrollment	1,467
Enrollment Cap	10,600	Full-time Senior Enrollment	1,543
<b>Employee Headcount</b>		Full-time Undergraduate Enrollment	6,137
University Employees	1,493	Housing Available	4,008
Contract Staff	246	Undergraduate percent of housing available <i>67% Or Higher Required by Zoning Order</i>	65%
Total	1,739	Freshman-Sophomore percent of housing available <i>85% or Higher Required by Zoning Order</i>	117%
Employee Cap	2,200		