

Community Liaison Committee Meeting
Tuesday, September 7, 2021
Meeting was Held Virtually On Zoom
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Introductions & Opening Remarks

The meeting of the Community Liaison Committee (CLC) was opened by Don Edwards, from Justice and Sustainability Associates, at 6:30 p.m. Vice President of People and External Relations Seth Grossman, who convenes and leads the meetings for American University, welcomed representatives of neighborhood organizations and local Advisory Neighborhood Commissions (ANCs).

Standing Reports

Student Conduct Off Campus since March 2021; Office Campus Conduct Presentation

Jeff Brown, Dean of Students, provided information on the Student Code of Conduct as relevant to off-campus student conduct from March 8, 2021 through September 1st, 2021. There were 9 reports of disruptive off-camping behavior, 8 reports from single family homes and one report from the Greenbriar. 7 Reports involved complaints of noise, large gatherings and alcohol, one report involved drug use, and one report for safety concerns surrounding occupancy. [The presentation can be found at:](#)

Community Relations Update

Maria Barry, Director of Community Relations, updated the CLC on several community relations items including access to the Spring Valley Gates, an update on neighbor access to AU's library, and the launch of AU's Community Postcard and Eagle Living Guide. [This presentation can be found at:](#)

Shelly Repp, of Tenleytown Neighbors Association, inquired when AU will be changing the bus routes through the AU Park neighborhood, adding they often idle for upwards of 5 minutes at the bus stop.

Ed Fisher, Assistant Vice President of Community and Government Relations, replied that AU is working with WMATA and DDOT to move the location of the bus stop, stating realistically it could be moved by the Spring semester. He added AU is reminding bus drivers not to idle in the neighborhoods for more than two or three minutes.

John Wheeler, of Ward 3 Vision, invited all CLC participants to attend the upcoming Tenleytown Main Street Art All Night event.

Alma Gates, of Neighbors for a Livable Community, raised the issue of cars stopping at Nebraska to pick up and drop off students causing congestion, stating this has been an ongoing problem.

Dan Nichols, Assistant Vice President of Risk, Safety & Transportation Programs, stated that he was aware of the issue, adding AU is working with city officials to get drivers to better comply.

Tim Talley, Wesley Heights resident, stated that with students returning to campus, he has experienced AU students parking on the side streets in violation of the Good Neighbor Parking policy. They added they haven't seen any AU officials ticketing nearby.

Jeremy Del Moral, of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D, spoke to a worrying incident in which an AU student on a E-scooter was hit by a vehicle exiting a parking lot, they added that circulating a PSA to students on safe scooter use may be a good idea.

Ed Fisher replied that AU has been in contact with ANC Commissioner Christian Damiana around bike and scooter infrastructure.

Barbara Repp, of Tenleytown Neighbors Association, asked AU to go over the protocol for reporting a parking violation.

Dan Nichols, replied that AU has student-workers who patrol the nearby neighborhoods on a regular basis, they added at the beginning of the semester new staff and students are often unfamiliar with the policy, and need a reminder through ticketing to be compliant.

Barbara responded by asking if students had been enforcing ticketing near her neighborhood recently.

Dan Nichols stated AU does have parking enforcement officials ticketing around East Campus, Main Campus, the Spring Valley building and the Tenley Campus.

Barbara stated that this enforcement hasn't happened.

Ed emphasized that AU does send out parking enforcement teams to the neighborhood to write citations for those in violation of the Good Neighbor Policy.

New Business and Neighborhood Issues

Ed Fisher gave an update on American University's COVID-19 Protocols as well as the 2021 Campus Plan. **This presentation can be found at:**

Chuck Elkins, of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D, stated he hopes AU emphasizes that students should also be following the CDC guidelines around COVID-19, he also commended AU on the vaccination requirement for students.

Ed thanked Chucked for his remarks.

Chuck also encouraged CLC participants to join the neighborhood partnership to work together with AU and neighbor communities to solve issues collaboratively at the working group level. They added the Eagle Living guide was a product partly of the Student Life working group.

Alma Gates, asked if AU anticipated a difference in student count between now and December

Ed replied AU generally reports their enrollment to the CLC in December, AU's student add or drop date was just in the past couple of days, they further stated AU doesn't take their full census of students until early October.

Alma asked if AU was over enrollment at the beginning of the school year.

Ed replied he could not speak to that yet.

Alma inquired about Neighbors for a Livable Community joining the AU Neighborhood Partnership Steering Committee.

Ed stated that the neighbors on the Steering Committee have discretion over adding additional community organizations.

Chuck added the membership of the Steering Committee is made up by representatives from community organizations, not individuals, he invited Alma to connect after the meeting to speak to specifics.

Shelly Repp asked if AU was currently housing three students to a room given COVID.

Fanta Aw, Vice President of Undergrad Enrollment, Student Life and Inclusive Excellence, replied AU was not using triples in their residential facilities currently.

Shelly also questioned the status of AU international students from China, adding he heard they may be having visa-related trouble making it to the US.

Fanta stated that enrollment of international students at AU has decreased due to the pandemic as well as visa issues from specifically China, AU does have options for international students to take courses online.

Good of the Order

The next AU Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 7th, 2021 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Other Upcoming CLC Meeting Dates:

March 8, 2022

June 14, 2022 (President's Town Hall)

September 13, 2022

December 6, 2022

Don Edwards thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 7:19 p.m.

Attendees

Community:

Anthony Ciccone, Fort Gaines Citizens Association

Alma Gates, Neighbors for a Livable Community
Jeremy Del Moral, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
Diane Dragaud, Fort Gaines Citizens Association
Chuck Elkins, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 3D
Teresa Guzman, Westover Place Homeowners Association
Ruth Knouse, Westover Place resident
Tony Long, Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Barbara Repp, Tenleytown Neighbors Association
Shelly Repp, Tenleytown Neighbors Association
Douglas Saunders, Westover Place Homeowners Association
Josie Scholz, resident
Timothy Talley, Wesley Heights resident
John Wheeler, Ward 3 Vision
Betsy White, Wesley Heights resident

American University Staff:

JSA Staff:

Joshua Babb, Justice and Sustainability Associates, LLC
Don Edwards, Justice and Sustainability Associates, LLC
Brian Schwartz, Justice and Sustainability Associates, LLC