

LMU Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

Loyola Marymount University

Thursday, Jan. 19, 2012

6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Attendees: Hampton Cantrell, Marcy Garcia, Anthony Garrison, Clarence Griffin, Nate Kaplan, Erika Kemmerer, Linda Kokelaar, Pat Lyon, Katie Pope, Ross Williams

Absent: Art Flores, Cyndi Hensch

Introduction of Committee Members:

- Hampton Cantrell – Chief of LMU Public Safety
- Marcy Garcia – LAPD Pacific Division Officer, representing Tony Ramos
- Anthony Garrison – Director, Off-Campus Student Life at LMU
- Clarence Griffin – LMU Director of Community and Local Government Relations
- Nate Kaplan – Representative from Councilman Rosendahl's office
- Erika Kemmerer – Westchester neighbor
- Linda Kokelaar – Westchester neighbor
- Pat Lyon – Westchester/Playa Neighborhood Council
- Katie Pope – Student, ASLMU officer
- Ross Williams – Westchester neighbor

Pedestrian Gates to LMU Update

Clarence Griffin gave an update on the two pedestrian gates at 78th Street/Fordham and 77th Street. The university is honoring its agreement by keeping the gates closed.

LMU's Paid Parking Plan Update

Kathleen Flanagan, vice president of Communications & Gov. Relations, stated that the decision on the parking fee amount has been delayed until the March Board of Trustees meeting. The fee will be instituted as of January 2013.

Permit Parking Districts

Nate Kaplan explained how [permit parking districts](#) are set up. First, a letter of interest to the city specifies parking limitations and restrictions. 67% of the block needs to agree with the plan in order to get a parking district. Each house would be given two permits. According to the Master Plan, LMU will pay up to \$24,000 per year toward parking permits for the neighborhood. The cost of permits is usually \$34 per household.

Kaplan noted that we are discussing this issue because we assume the neighborhood parking situation will change once the university starts charging to park on campus. The City of L.A. currently has a moratorium on “preferred parking districts.”

City of L.A. ACE Program

Nate Kaplan discussed the ACE Program, which is also known as the “Party House Ordinance.” The program is still in the planning stages; it was created because of party houses around the city. The program would be used to expedite the process for issues like noise violations. For example: the homeowner can get a ticket on the spot. The City Attorney will have drafted an updated report on the implications of passing such an ordinance. The report will be reviewed by the City Council and the council will either vote to approve/reject or table the item.

Student Behavior in the Community

Anthony Garrison gave an update on complaints about off-campus students. There were 16 judicial cases last semester. LMU responds to every neighbor complaint; neighbors are encouraged to use the online Report a Concern form at www.LMU.edu under the community link.

The office of Off-Campus Student Life coordinates with the Dept. of Public Safety (DPS), Judicial Affairs, the Alcohol and Beverage Commission and the LAPD. After a complaint is processed, students get an email to let them know that their house is being investigated. The process is multi-tiered so that each concern is addressed appropriately.

LMU offers a noise seminar that is mandatory for any student who receives a noise complaint. The one-hour seminar involves a consultation with DPS and the student must write a personal action plan.

There will be an open forum for LMU students with DPS and LAPD on Feb. 9. Participants can get information on LAPD response in the neighborhood.

Any student who does not get campus housing in the fall will go through an orientation on living in the neighborhood. Topics covered include policies, laws and respect for neighbors.

Update on the Landscaping Plan

Al Tipon, director of facilities administration, noted that the LMU recycling center has been moved to Drollinger Parking Structure. LMU has the green light to move forward with Area C landscaping (on McConnell); they plan to begin in the summer.

Five Foot Setback Requirement

Al Tipon confirmed the five foot setback along the McConnell Avenue property line will be addressed over the summer along with the landscaping of Area C.

Public Safety Update

Chief Hampton Cantrell said that DPS investigates complaints they receive and each complaint is documented. If DPS gets a call about a party, an officer will respond to the location to determine if the reported conduct has occurred/is occurring. DPS refers cases to judicial affairs when appropriate.

Party Buses: DPS has been working with LAPD and Alcohol and Beverage Commission regarding the issue of party buses. Party buses are a problem at USC and UCLA as well. DPS wants to identify the buses and get information on who owns the buses. Anthony Garrison noted that Student Affairs discourages students from using these buses. Some buses are used on campus and are legitimate, however buses in the neighborhood are not sanctioned.

Fence Jumping: Some students and others park in the neighborhood and jump the fence on to campus. DPS is working to discourage fence jumping. Garrison noted that fence jumping is trespassing.

Facilities Update

Al Tipon stated that there are not any major facilities projects planned for next year.

Community Event Notice

Clarence Griffin said that LMU wants to inform neighbors when smaller projects are taking place on campus as well as events that might impact the neighborhood. He asked neighbors present to send him their email addresses so they can be notified. Griffin noted that College Fest takes place on March 25; 2,000 students will be in Sunken Garden for this event. College Fest and other events are listed on the three-month calendar of events distributed at the meeting.

Non-Agenda Items/Committee Comments

Linda Kokelaar commented that some neighbors have given up on submitting a Report a Concern form. Garrison said that LMU responds to each complaint. Because of FERPA, they cannot discuss what the response was. Griffin said that changes may not be evident but students are being accountable. Neighbors are encouraged to also reach out to LAPD and the property owner. LMU is willing to help neighbors identify specific property owners.

Kokelaar noted that some of the QUIET signs were down in the neighborhood and she requested that the signs be re-posted. Tipon said he will have the signs re-posted.

Kokelaar said that DPS officers are not giving their names when neighbors call.

Kokelaar commented that students who ride bikes in the neighborhood do not obey the rules of the road. Garrison said that LMU is working on bike safety education for students. ASLMU offers an educational program called Bike LA.

Kokelaar asked if Neighborhood Advisory meeting attendees will be charged to park beginning in Fall 2012. Flanagan responded that parking policy details will come out in March.

Ross Williams asked Chief Cantrell if DPS can post detailed information on what they are doing to stop fence jumpers. Chief Cantrell responded that DPS will collaborate with Student Affairs on how best to address the problem and it is probable that information on this issue will be published to the DPS and Student Affairs websites.

Public Comment

Thefts in Playa Del Rey

Jim Kimball, Playa Del Rey resident, stated that his radio was stolen out of his truck twice and a political poster was stolen from the outside of his garage.

Parking Concerns

Three neighbors discussed their concerns about paid parking at LMU. Pat Lyon asked if the March Board of Trustees meeting was open to the public. Kathleen Flanagan responded that it is not a public meeting. Erica Kemmerer asked for more information on the parking permit moratorium. Nate Kaplan said that permits may go through if there is enough desire from neighbors. He encouraged neighbors to talk to each other and gauge interest in setting up parking districts.

Exhaust Fan Units

Westchester neighbor Ron Marks stated that LMU installed exhaust fan units on the roof of University Hall in violation of the Master Plan. He said the units obstruct views of homes. Marks referred to section 4.1.1.1 of the Master Plan. Flanagan noted that this section refers to structures on new buildings.

Party Houses

Three neighbors complained about party houses. Playa Del Rey neighbor Robert Weldon said that excessive partying is a new issue in Playa Del Rey. He asked Nate Kaplan for more information about the ACE Program. Kaplan explained that LAPD would still be called to the scene but they may hand out citations at the scene. Officer Marcy Garcia added that the LAPD takes neighbors' concerns seriously and neighbors are encouraged to call – whether the ordinance passes or not. Garcia said she would take Weldon's suggestions for more aggressive approach to her watch commander.

Pat Lyon commented that Tony Ramos spends Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights patrolling the streets. Students have been arrested and detained. Lyon encouraged neighbors to call the Pacific Coast Division desk.

Kathleen Flanagan encouraged neighbors to contact Clarence Griffin to get information on landlords of party houses.

Jim Kimball commented that the LAPD patrol car comes to your house first if you report partying (as opposed to the party house). Officer Garcia responded that callers may tell the dispatch that they do not want their name associated with the call. She also reinforced the agreed upon protocol that neighbors should call LAPD first, if an ordinance/law is being broken, before calling LMU or anyone else.

The date for the next meeting has not been set. It will take place in approximately three months.