

LMU Neighborhood Advisory Committee Meeting Notes

LMU University, Hilton Building, Room 100

August 8, 2012

6:30–8:00 p.m.

Attendees: Hampton Cantrell, Anthony Garrison, Clarence Griffin, Nate Kaplan, Erika Kemmerer, Linda Kokelaar, Pat Lyons, Shirley Sher, Jade Smith, Ross Williams

Absent: Cyndi Hench, Tony Ramos

Committee Members were introduced:

- Clarence Griffin - LMU Director of Community and Local Government Relations/Co-chair
- Erika Kemmerer – Co-chair/Westchester neighbor
- Nate Kaplan - Representative from Councilman Rosendahl's office
- Linda Kokelaar – Co-coordinator/Westchester neighbor
- Shirley Sher – Westchester neighbor
- Patricia Lyon - Westchester/Playa Neighborhood Council
- Hampton Cantrell - Chief of LMU Public Safety
- Anthony Garrison - Director, Off-Campus Student Life at LMU
- Jade Smith – LMU Assistant Dean for Student Engagement, Retention and Transition
- Ross Williams - Westchester neighbor

New Meeting Format:

The NAC members have adopted a new format. The meeting will be moderated by co-chairs Erika Kemmerer and Clarence Griffin. Speakers will have the flexibility to ask a question and receive a direct answer from committee members, time permitting. Questions that cannot be addressed during the meeting will be noted and addressed at the subsequent meeting.

There was general discussion regarding the frequency of meetings. It was agreed that this topic would be discussed at an interim meeting and that the meeting would be open to the public.

Old Business:

University Hall Fans

Kathleen Flanagan provided an update on the University Hall fan issue. LMU is waiting for the L.A. City Planning Department to give its report concerning LMU compliance; the report might be completed late this summer or early fall. Kathleen stated that there is an honest disagreement regarding interpretation; as a result we are leaving it up to the Planning Department to address this issue. In the meantime, LMU is willing to meet with the neighbors to see if they are interested in having LMU paint the fans. Nate Kaplan agreed to get specific dates to discuss this topic further.

McConnell Avenue Landscaping

Landscaping in Area C has already begun. LMU will provide a 5-foot landscaped buffer and the cement has been cut back. However, LMU needs to resolve issues with two of the property owners in Area C before trees are planted. Once the legal and permit issues are addressed, the work can get done quickly.

New Business

78th Street and Fordham Road Fence Installation

LMU will install a new 8-foot wrought-iron fence along 78th up to Altavan and a chain-link fence on Fordham Road to 80th Street to discourage students from jumping the fence to access the campus. Shirley Sher asked if LMU could conduct a study to find out why students are jumping the fence. She asked if it was possible to put up “Do not jump signs.”

Erica Kemmerer indicated that the Fordham Road chain-link fence will have vines growing on both sides of the fence, with the exception of the area behind the Child Care Center, beginning at the Fordham and 80th Street intersection. The construction of the fence will take place between October and December of this year.

Ross Williams congratulated LMU for meeting with the neighbors on two occasions, listening to their concerns and responding to neighbors’ input.

Hampton Cantrell informed the audience that students jumping the fence are subject to a \$50 fine. He said the Department of Public Safety will be more assertive in giving warnings and tickets. Last semester, 12 citations were given out of 20 students stopped.

Permit Parking

Steve Benjamin, a community member, requested an update regarding Councilman Rosendahl’s efforts to find a way around the city’s parking permit district moratorium.

Nate Kaplan indicated that there might be new parking regulations at the beginning of 2013 that would green light the establishment of new permit parking districts – currently there is a citywide moratorium on the creation of new permit parking districts. Jaime DeLaVega of the Department of Transportation was told months ago of this issue regarding the option to form a permit parking district in Westchester, and was very agreeable to give an exception to the moratorium. Nate added that the city/council office will select an independent contractor to perform a survey of the neighborhood and that LMU has committed to pay for the survey.

The LADOT parking permit regulations were handed out to the audience.

Several questions were raised regarding the process: When will the survey take place? Who picks the survey consultant, LMU or the city? The committee confirmed that the survey would probably take place in the first quarter of 2013 and that the city/council office would select the consultant.

Clarence Griffin reminded the audience that on Aug. 27, 2012, LMU would begin charging visitors to park on campus.

Tommy Roys said this has been pushed through so fast, and suggested a survey after May 2013 to assess the parking plan. She said that she would prefer to not have to go purchase permits to park in front of her house.

The impact of parking permits on residents was raised. Concern for parking permit costs, due to extra visitors, i.e. cleaning persons, plumbers, pool servicers, child care providers, repair persons, etc., could range up to \$500-\$600 or more a year.

Clarence Griffin said that the residents will choose what direction they want to go – permit parking or no permit parking. The university is willing to pay for the survey. He said that LMU will work with Councilman Rosendahl’s office to implement what the residents want.

Non-Agenda Items:

Nancy, a Playa Vista resident, expressed concerns regarding students smoking pot, parking issues, and car pooling from Playa Vista up to campus to avoid paying a parking fee. There are now issues with students who are parking in the neighborhoods, and they are rather noisy when they return to their cars in the evening.

Ron, a 25-year McConnell Avenue resident, expressed concerns about a “fraternity” house at 7515 McConnell, stating that friends of students are parking there already. There is noise, littering and trash when friends come over. His wife sees them park and walk through private property all day long. The students indicated that they use the property as a way to enter the campus.

Clarence Griffin stated that the university is installing an 8-foot fence in [Area E](#), the north east corner of the campus, to prevent this issue before school starts.

Traffic Calming

The issue of a four-way stop sign at the corner of 80th and Fordham was raised again. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the Neighborhood Council for consideration.

The next NAC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2012, at the Westchester Senior Center.