

**Minutes**  
**Neighborhood Stabilization Committee**  
**Council Chambers**  
**College Park City Hall**  
**Monday, December 1, 2014**  
**7:00 PM- 8:31 PM**

**Committee Members Present:**

Mayor and Council: Andrew Fellows, P. J. Brennan, Robert Day, Alan Hew, Denise Mitchell, Stephanie Stulich, Patrick Wojahn  
Residents: Jackie Pearce Garrett, Bonnie McClellan, Richard Morrison, Christine Nagel, Aaron Springer  
Students: Cole Holocker, Catherine McGrath  
University: Dr. Andrea Goodwin, Matthew Supple  
Police: Chief David Mitchell, Major Dan Weishaar  
Landlords: Paul Carlson, Richard Biffel

**Other Meeting Participants:**

University of Maryland: Anne Martens, Sgt. Rosanne Hoas, Major Ken Calvert, Howard Blake  
Resident: Dave Dorsch  
City Staff: Bill Gardiner, Bob Ryan, Yvette Allen

**Welcome and Introductions:** Co-Chair Patrick Wojahn welcomed the committee and everyone introduced themselves.

**Discussion of Public Forum held on November 6 – What were the Subcommittees main takeaways?**

Code Enforcement and Public Safety

Bob Ryan: Noise: house parties and street noise in the Old Town area were the main topics discussed. The group recommended that the committee focus on additional code enforcement and police; work with IFC and expand tailgating.

Denise Mitchell: Communication: Need effective written and verbal communication especially when citations are issued.

P. J. Brennan:

- “Wailing Ban” in Virginia.
- Possibility of a more controlled environment on Fraternity Row.

Community Building and Culture Change

Alan Hew:

- Little Paint Branch trail stream community clean-up to include students and residents. May also have a rubber duck/turtle race which could possibly include educational check points.
- Cultural events

- Community Gardens: Start a community garden. Students and residents can team up.
- Art planters on the Trolley Trail
- Buy Local Week – similar to Restaurant Week
- Space for a Community Union so that artistic events can be shared/held.
- Community Listserv to spread the word on events going on in the community and on campus.

Robert Day:

- Listserv – get news out to the students about what’s going on in City and news to residents about what’s taking place on campus.
- Artscape: projects where residents and student can work together throughout the entire City.
- Fraternity and Sorority reestablishing the “take the streets back program.”

### Expectations and Best Practices for Property Owner

Paul Carlson:

- Many questions regarding the Accreditation Program (questionnaire sent out by the Rental Property Owners, asking them to define what the best practices are for property owners).
- Transparency on problem houses. Meet with the landlord and tenant(s) of the worst properties to resolve violation issues.
- More integration of landlords and tenants with their neighbors.

Jackie Pearce Garrett:

- Partnership with the University of Maryland.
- Establishing a campaign to target a street/block that we want to turnover.
- Messaging /communication issues: What it means to live in College Park.

### Diversity of Student Housing Options

Patrick Wojahn:

- Cooperative housing.
- Affordable and quality student housing.
- Intergenerational group housing such as the Maitri house in Takoma Park.
- Nonprofit community housing program.

### **Subcommittee reports on activities since the September 16 meeting:**

Communication:

P. J. Brennan: Still working on a website, but will be reaching out to the subcommittees asking what information they would like posted. Working on ideals for facebook and twitter.

### Expectations and Best Practices for Property Owner

Jackie: The subcommittee had a meeting with members of the 21<sup>st</sup> Delegation and Eric Olson to talk about State and County resources that may be available.

Paul Carlson:

Expectations for landlords; what should happen before or after a contract is signed; what language should be included in a lease so that tenants are accountable for their actions. Educate tenants/students

that Code Enforcement is available if they need assistance with a landlord. Work with the Code Enforcement and Public Safety subcommittee to work out specific issues.

**Subcommittee plans for next steps:**

Stephanie Stulich: Suggested that each subcommittee writes down what strategies they will be working on in the next 3-5 months and the long term strategies. Identify who will be working on what strategy and a timeline of implementation. Stephanie and Patrick will try to get a template sent to each subcommittee within the next few weeks.

**Proposed meeting calendar for 2015:**

2015 dates selected:

February 9

May 4

August 24

November 9

Meeting concluded at 8:16 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2015.