

**Neighborhood Quality of Life Committee Meeting**  
**February 13, 7:00 pm**  
**College Park City Hall**

**Final Minutes**

---

**1. Call to Order/Introductions**

**Bill Gardiner called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm and attendees introduced themselves.**

**Members Present:** Andrea Beaty, Gloria Aprico-Blackwell, Paul Carlson, Bill Gardiner , Robert Day , Dave Lloyd, Bonnie McClellan , Robert Ryan, Scott Somers, Aaron Springer, Bob Schnabel, Seth Statler, Stephanie Stullich, Alex Tobin, Patrick Wojahn.

**Also in attendance:** Adam Aist, Inter Fraternity Council, Arjun Kumar, Inter Fraternity Council, AJ Pruitt, UMD Student Affairs .

**2. General Announcements**

***Third Thirsty Thursdays:*** Bonnie McClellan provided information about *Third Thirsty Thursdays*, the Home Owners Committee effort to build relationships with University of Maryland Community and College Park, often connected with community events like *Bring A Donation for The Animal Shelter*. The committee is hoping to host events at the *MilkBoy Arthouse* when the facility opens.

***6<sup>th</sup> Annual Good Neighbor Day, Saturday April 1, 2017:*** Gloria Aprico-Blackwell gave information about Good Neighbor Day. The goal is to recruit and pre-register 500 volunteers; in 2016, 340 volunteers were in attendance. Some of the day's events include meal packing, a partnership effort with the *Terps Against Hunger* Organization. Meal packing will take place at Paint Branch Elementary School. There is a new partnership with Prince George's Department of Environment to complete additional projects including: litter and invasive species clean up, and tree planting throughout the UMD Campus and College Park. Litter pick-ups and tree planting are scheduled to take place at sites including: Lake Artemisia, Paint Branch Trail, and the dog park. Gloria will forward a flyer for promotion.

***University of Maryland Community Police Academy:*** Dave Lloyd offered information about the UMD Community Police Academy hosted by the University of Maryland Police Department. The Academy is open to students, residents, and anyone with an interest in police work. Dave stated that the Department is planning to host an academy each semester. The Academy began on February 8, 2017; it includes 10 sessions and is hosted at the UMD Police Training Academy on Wednesdays for three hours per session.

**3. Review and Approve Minutes from November 14, 2016**

Aaron Springer motioned to approve the minutes from November 14, 2016. Dave Lloyd seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Review draft Annual Report**

Stephanie Stullich provided a structural overview of the Annual Report, providing information about the report explaining that the report is inclusive previous accomplishments from 2014 and 2015. "***The Strategies accomplished Between July 2015 and June 2016***" and "***List 1 "Completed Strategies"***" showcases accomplishments of the Committee and Partners.

**“Metrics for Measuring Success” (p.6):** Stephanie said the metrics could indicate a fluctuation in code violations, resident awareness of how to resolve and reports problems, or an increase to the number of responses to code violations.

**“Completed Strategies” (p.12):** There are 64 strategies that the committee feels have been effectively accomplished;

**List 2 Strategies for Other Organizations:** Stephanie will send an electronic version of the report to track changes. The final Annual Report will be distributed to the home owners and neighborhood associations.

Gloria Aprico-Blackwell inquired about Fraternities adopting local streets and highways for litter clean ups. AJ Pruitt discussed The *Clean City Project*, a partnership initiative between the IFC and PHA. The project began in June 2016 and ran for ten weeks. Pruitt reported that 450 participants collected approximately 400 bags of trash & recycling. There is interest in continuing and expanding the program to incentivize better practices within the neighborhoods, and efforts to secure additional trash and recycling bins in targeted areas. Blackwell highlighted the importance of metrics and including data in the Annual Report.

Adam Aist stated that the IFC is in the process of planning Greek week and implementing trash clean-up guidelines. An IFC Committee Planning meeting is scheduled on February 14 to include ideas to measure trash. Stephanie Stullich asked about using color-coded bags to simplify the separating of trash and recycles. Pruitt stated that a system is in place and will ensure that it is communicated more clearly and widely advertised to members of the community.

Robert Day asked if Fraternity members wore organizational colors during clean ups. Pruitt stated that all organizations did not. Day shared that residents offered positive feedback when seeing members of the organizations working in the community and suggested considering a systematic representation to highlight the organization’s efforts to other members of the community and bring more overall awareness to the clean ups. Blackwell offered to connect Pruitt with her county contact to get proper forms and information to continue clean-up efforts.

**5. Discussion of strategy to support and increase on-campus tailgating events and attendance:**

David Lloyd shared attendance and logistical details related to tailgating activities in 2016. An increase in attendance is attributed to the location and the IFC securing the use of practice field for tailgating events. Lloyd discussed the security measures put in place by the IFC including installing fences and cameras. Clean up efforts were also effective in maintaining low levels of trash. PG county police oversaw local, off-campus policing on game days, while UMD Police officers oversaw the campus. The minimal number of game day incidents and arrests involving students have been attributed to the IFC’s efforts to keep students engaged in tailgating and games.

Arjun Kumar stated that the IFC has not finalized agreements with athletics and is currently seeking incentives to boost game attendance. Food is expensive and there is an effort to partner with student service organizations on campus to offer food for purchase.

Robert Day stated that notable improvements have been made in old town and throughout the city and his intention to advocate for continued funding. Stullich suggested continuing proactive partnerships to increase resident understanding about how and why city funds are allocated in support of tailgating.

**AJ Pruitt motioned to draft a letter to Mayor and Council to continue funding support. Aaron Springer seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed unanimously.**

AJ Pruitt mentioned efforts to expand tailgating to other sports, clubs, and student groups. Strategies are under consideration to expand opportunities for positive game day experiences for all students.

Aaron Springer asked about the largest opposition to expanding on-campus tailgating. Pruitt stated funding and opposition by the Director of Health Services to expand opportunities for students to drink alcohol. Lloyd suggested that data related to student alcohol transports and other types of arrest show a decrease and do not suggest a need for concern. The data suggests hosting the events in a controlled environment has reduced incidents. There is also a need to examine data more closely as reported incidents are not all related to misconduct, some incidents have been medical, specifically heat-related illnesses.

Bill Gardiner asked about other University events for non- fraternity students. Pruitt stated that a previous event by the Residence Hall Association was poorly attended and as a result abolished.

Alex Toboh asked about the number of incidents involving students versus the number of incidents involving alumni, and Dave Lloyd stated that the student incidents were minimal. Arjun Kumar stated new strategies to monitor attendance with color coded plastic wrist bands. IFC received \$7,000 last year and is currently looking for donations from other sources. Adam Aist will gather information in the upcoming week to get a better estimate of funding needs.

#### **6. Setting Agenda for March Meeting**

The board discussed potentially expanding on-campus tailgating to include other groups and/or other sports events. David Lloyd stated basketball is highly attended and tailgating occurs in lot 1. Lloyd offered that there are numerous factors to consider offering game day activities for students under 21. AJ Pruitt noted the logistics are different in terms of facility space and accommodations. IFC members comprise approximately 13% of the student body. The Student Government Association is continually seeking solutions to provide stronger programming for student game day and tailgating experiences beyond IFC program events.

Blackwell expressed the community's previous issues with alcohol and asked about *Terps After Dark Friday* and Saturday nights for the first month of school. It is unclear if the target audience is being reached; the events have not yet been linked to a decrease of incidents. Pruitt stated that semester start dates and idle time are strong contributing factors to alcohol related issues in the community. Lloyd shared details about the *Knock and Talk Program* designed in part to educate students about potential at-risk behaviors associated with drugs and alcohol.

Arjun Kumar reported the number of IFC alcohol transports has decreased from last year. This semester there have been 0 or (close to 0) transports reported. The change is attributed to efforts of a culture shift of IFC student gatherings and parties. Students are required to participate in an online orientation called *E-Chug* that educates students about drinking responsibly.

Robert Day asked about monitoring funding costs and fundraising for parties and events on Frat Row. Arjun Kumar stated that events are self- funded or hosted with other organizations.

Adam Aist stated that Event Monitors have completed SEM training refreshers. Monitors walk through each organization's house every weekend (Thursday, Friday, and Saturday) from 10:30pm -12:30am to ensure compliance with guidelines for registered events. Monitors are responsible for verifying all hosted events are registered, guests sign, security is present for ID checks, and there is no alcohol present.

Bob Schnabel stated that creating opportunities for students and local residents to get to know each other helps create a positive culture that impacts student resident conduct in Old Town. Identifying student homes that lack a culture of leadership and compliance throughout the year is a potential solution to creating better neighborhood relationships. Stephanie Stulich agreed and said that identifying student resident homes with positive conduct is equally important to help strengthen relationships within the community. Aaron Springer shared positive experiences with student neighbors and suggested that solutions can be found in creating a sense of continuity between community and university expectations. Lloyd reiterated the need for residents to report problems to make sure the issue is on record so that the data can be tracked. Robert Ryan suggested creating strategies the first month of the semester to foster relationships between student residents and local residents.

**7. Live College Park website**

The website is live ([www.livecollegepark.org](http://www.livecollegepark.org)). The site's goal is to work in conjunction with the city's main site and offer detailed information about relocating to College Park. Scott Somers provided an overview of the site's layout and encouraged the committee to review the site for suggested edits and enhancements.

**8. Adjourn – next meeting 7 pm Monday, March 13**

Alex Toboh motioned to adjourn the meeting and Seth Statler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.