



CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Boston College Neighborhood Council

MEETING NOTES

Date: January 30, 2013
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Room 202

Setti D. Warren
Mayor

Candace Havens
Director
Planning & Development

Members
Ald. Lisle Baker
Stephen Bart
Gloria Gavris
Candace Havens
Thomas Keady
Ald. Stephen Linsky

Lisle Baker alerted the group to an accident in front of Gonzaga Hall dormitory pathway, noting a resident's car struck a student in the crosswalk. Candace offered to follow up with the City Traffic Engineer regarding what improvements could be put in place to prevent similar incidents in the future.

Ald. Baker witnessed a few people parking on Suffolk Road that are affiliated with the college. Jeanne Levesque indicated that the residents near the Law campus requested a restriction in their neighborhood. The request was denied by Traffic Council because there was a concern that the restriction would just shift the problem and there was no public safety benefit.

There have been two armed robberies in the area of BC recently: one at 200 Lake Street in Brighton, and another at Hammond and Reservoir. These were not student related, but of concern to the College and community.

St Mary's Hall. Jeanne gave an update on St. Mary's Hall. A building permit has been issued and construction has begun, including demolition and abatement. Access has been well managed. The group commented that noticing of neighbors and police also has been well managed. Most deliveries are being made through the main gate.

The location of this meeting is handicap accessible and reasonable accommodations will be provided to persons requiring assistance. If you have a special accommodation need, contact the Newton ADA Coordinator Trisha Guditz at 617-796-1156 or via TDD/TTY at (617) 796-1089 at least two days in advance of the meeting.

1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA02459
T 617/796-1120
F 617/796-1142

www.newtonma.gov

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Stokes Hall is open and parking is working well. BC and City staffs are working together on improving lighting on the campus and will be returning to the Public Facilities Committee in the near future. All are working together to make sure the ornamental lights, especially, are working properly. Board members and staff lauded BC representatives to the quality and beauty of the new building and appreciated the efforts that went into making it an outstanding addition to the community.

The pedestrian signal is working properly; BC staff has provided good education and have gotten positive feedback. Ald. Fuller suggested placing the trailer in the area to give direction to drivers so they better understand what to do.

BC has started its dorm process. One of the next projects is adding dining in Carney Hall. In answer to a question from Ald. Fuller, BC is still looking at drug-free housing for their students after having withdrawn a previous proposal to integrate a facility in the immediate neighborhood.

There was a recent meeting to consider MBTA funding where regional concerns related to the Green Line were aired broadly. There was no specific discussion about the BC station renovation, but Tom Keady felt that the renovations would stay on track.

BC is looking at a pilot to extend bus service into Newton Centre on Sundays. This new route is proposed from Conti Forum down Beacon Street to Newton Centre and looping back for shopping and groceries at Star Market. Jeanne asked about the need to amend the license for transportation and wondered if it could be done as a pilot to explore before license renewal comes up in June.

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