Boston College Task Force

Meeting Summary Tuesday, August 21, 2007 Brighton Marine Medical Center 6:30p.m.-8:30p.m.

I. Attendance:

Boston College Task Force

Jean Woods, Chair
Paul Berkeley
John Bruno
Tim Burke
Terry Cohen
Anabela Gomes
Rosie Hanlon
Denis Minihane
Angela Tang
Janet Tambascio Fraher

Boston College

Paul Chebator, Interim Dean of Students, Office of Student Development Jack Dunn, Director, Office of Public Affairs
Joe Herlihy, General Counsel
Tom Keady, VP, Governmental and Community Affairs
Evie Kuran, Institutional Master Plan Project Coordinator,
Jeanne Levesque, Director, Governmental Relations
Bill Mills, Directory, Community Affairs
Steve Montgomery, Off Campus Student Community Liaison
Chief Robert Morse, BC Police Department

VHB

Howard Muise

Elected Officials

A representative from Senator Steven Tolman's Office

City of Boston

John FitzGerald, Boston Redevelopment Authority Paul Holloway, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services Steve Law, Boston Police Department Erico Lopez, Boston Redevelopment Authority Katelyn Sullivan, Boston Redevelopment Authority

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II. Summary:

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Task Force Chair Jean Woods and members of the Task Force introduced themselves. Tom Keady, Vice President of Governmental & Community Affairs at Boston College introduced BC and consultant team members and began a presentation on student behavior. He said that BC is evaluating and strengthening its student behavior initiatives with internal and external constituencies and the University is planning to increase on-campus student housing as part of its Master Plan.

Tom introduced Bill Mills, the Director of Community Affairs who coordinates BC's response to community concerns about student misconduct and supervises the Community Assistance Program (CAP) and lastly accompanies local police on site visits to problem houses. The Office of Governmental & Community Affairs conducts an annual Student Behavior meeting between BC administrators, local police depts., and Brighton District Court officials. The Office also hires Boston Police patrols on an overtime basis Thu-Sat evenings, holidays, and other high-activity dates from 8 p.m. to 4 a.m. to respond to off-campus complaints. BC also works with landlords, property managers and the Inspectional Services Department (ISD) to resolve student behavior issues, housing problems, and sanitary code violations.

The office of the Dean for Student Development, Boston Police, the Interim Vice President for Student Affairs, and the Boston College Police Department also play/will play a key role in promoting good student behavior. The Interim Dean of Students Paul Chebator and Chief Bob Morse from the BC Police Department summarized their departments' off-campus student behavior efforts.

After the presentation there were questions from the Task Force and the community. Some audience members wanted to make sure that the whole community is taken into account when investigating house parties. If the party does not have BC students in attendance the community would like it still to be taken care of.

Tom Keady brought up BC's "Zero Tolerance" policy which means that a student will enter into BC's disciplinary system the first time they are caught breaking school code.

There were concerns about why juniors live off campus instead of seniors who may be more mature. Jack Dunn, Director of Public Affairs, explained that approximately half of BC's third year students elect to study abroad. This leaves a smaller population of students residing in the neighborhoods.

Residents suggested other initiatives that may help improve relations between students and their neighbors including a Monday morning clean-up crew as well as a daytime "get-to-know your neighbors" program.

Lastly, several residents had questions about housing code violations. Paul Holloway, Neighborhood Services, said these questions should be addressed to ISD. BC agreed to schedule an opportunity for residents to meet with Commissioner Bill Goode or a representative from ISD to discuss housing regulations and landlord issues.

The meeting ended at 8:30 p.m.