

BELLINGHAM-WESTERN WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

CAMPUS COMMUNITY COALITION

Friday, February 25, 2005
St. Luke's Community Health Education Center

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Anne Mackie, York Neighborhood Assn.
Annie Garvey, WWU Student
April Markiewicz, Samish Neighborhood Assn.
Barbara Brandt, South Hill Neighborhood Assn.
Barbara Hudson, NW Rental Owners Assn.
Barney Goltz, Cornwall Neighborhood Assn.
Betsy Beirer, City of Bellingham Mayors Office
Bob Hofstetter, WWU Campus Recreation Services
Brian Pahl, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Brian Waller, The Beaver Inn
Chad Heinrich, Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
Chris Berry, Lutheran Campus Ministries
Chris Neumann, WWU Student/Happy Valley Neighborhood Assn.
Christine Burkhart, Bellingham Police Department
Christy Valle, WWU Student
Cory Bartel, WWU Student
Dale Monroe, Puget Neighborhood Assn
Dave Doll, Bellingham Police Department
Dave Newell, WWU Center for Service Learning
Debbie Kent, Whatcom County Sheriff's Office
Dick Conoboy, Samish Neighborhood Block Watch
Eleana Gould, WWU Student
Elizabeth Allen, Happy Valley Neighborhood Assn.
Elva Giddings, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Erwin Lloyd, Puget Neighborhood Assn.
Gayle Shipley, WWU Environmental Safety & Health
Jan Rystrom, Haggen's Foods
Jessica Ribera, WWU Student
John Hymas, Happy Valley Neighborhood Assn.
Katrina Schaeffer, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Kent Nelson, ACE Beverage Bellingham
Kevin Majkut, WWU Student Activities
Kristi Coy, Muljat Group Realtors
Kurt Nabbefeld, City of Bellingham Planning Dept
Lara Welker, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Lidia Tillman-McAdoo, Property Owner
Louise Bjornson, Bellingham City Council
Marie Sather, WWU Campus Recreation Services
Marilyn Williams, Lettered Streets Neighborhood Assn.
Mark Young, Bellingham Police Department
Melissa Locke, Bellingham Police Department
Michael Schardein, WWU Office of Student Life
Michael Sledge, WWU Residence Life
Naomi Jones, St Joseph Hospital/Peace Health
Natale Piro, WWU Student
Pat Fabiano, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Patty Relay, World Famous Up & Up Tavern
Paul Cocke, WWU Office of Communications
Peter Rosenberg, WWU Residence Life
Randy Carroll, Bellingham Police Department
Renée Collins, WWU Office of Student Affairs
Richard Maneval, Roosevelt Neighborhood Assn.
Robin Rootenberg, Sehome Neighborhood Assn.
Sandy Jones, Ebright-Wight Property Management
Sarah Rankin, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Scott Snider, Bellingham Police Department
Slaven Slugic, WWU Student
Steve Kirkelie, City Attorney's Office
Susan Adams, WWU Prevention & Wellness Services
Ted Pratt, WWU Dean of Students
Tom Dixon, WA State Liquor Control Board
Tony Masias, WA State Liquor Control Board
Van Hudson, NW Rental Owners Assn.
Vanessa Melton, WWU Alumna

Welcome and Introductions

Pat Fabiano welcomed the group and the attendees introduced themselves. Pat extended a special welcome to Bellingham Police Chief Randy Carroll; WWU students Cory Bartel, Annie Garvey, Natale Piro, Eleana Gould, Jessica Ribera, and Christy Valle from Dr. Werder's course on Civil Discourse; Debbie Kent and Chad Heinrich from the Sheriff's Office; and Katrina Schaeffer, new staff member of WWU Prevention and Wellness Services.

Planned Coalition Activities

Pat opened the meeting by “telling the story” of the Coalition over the last year. She noted that historically the Coalition has been made up of “doer’s”. About a year ago the Steering Committee was convened to define the Coalition’s mission and goals. Unfortunately, the funding was coming to an end around the same time. Two grants were written and, to our pleasant surprise, both were funded last fall. The past six months have been dedicated to developing plans for implementing and evaluating the grants within the structure of the Coalition. The Coalition’s mission and goals and the grant activities are very closely related. The Coalition now has strategic direction, and (for now at least) secure funding. And we are looking forward to working with the Coalition work groups to implement the new projects.

Lara reviewed a handout summarizing the planned activities (please see attachment *Planned Campus Community Coalition Activities, 2005-2007*). There are three projects: Neighborhoods Engaging with Students (NEST), Enforcement/Decreasing Access to Alcohol, and Late Night Programming. She noted that the existing Coalition work groups can now focus on the projects. The Case Study and Neighborhood Education work groups are the logical ones to work on the NEST project. The Enforcement work group will continue to focus on the enforcement activities, including increasing publicity of enforcement efforts. The Social Activities group has evolved to its current focus on Late Night Programming. She noted that the Hospitality Alliance was not listed, and commented that the voluntary and public compliance with alcohol laws is as important as enforcement. She also stated that the Hospitality Resource Alliance potentially has an important role to play in all three of the project areas, and exactly what that is can be further defined as they get underway.

Lara then reviewed a logic model (please see attachment *Logic Model for Campus Community Coalition Activities funded by the NIAAA*), which presents long term, intermediate and short term outcomes, as well as implementation activities and the main aspects of evaluation. Pat commented that we are asking, “How will the world be different if we are successful?” and working backwards from there. She pointed out that the Coalition goals appear again in the logic model.

Chief Randy Carroll expressed concern that with regards to evaluation, we cannot compare ourselves to communities with larger universities. Pat clarified that the comparison sites that will be used are very similar to WWU and Bellingham. She also clarified that the comparison will be of students’ views and behaviors, gathered from surveys, not of enforcement data.

Jessica Ribera commented that she thinks most students do not really know the consequences of underage drinking. She suggested that if the consequences of breaking the underage laws were better publicized, under age drinking would go down. Lidia Tillman McAdoo noted that paying the fines for the charges seems to have a big impact.

Barbara Hudson pointed out an inconsistency in the language between the two handouts. She noted that “*Planned Activities*” states the Coalition will “act as a resource” to develop a mechanism to address party houses, whereas the Logic Model specifically refers to an ordinance, as if it has already been determined that is the best mechanism. Lara responded that the intent is that the Coalition could contribute to the “party house” issue by researching what has worked in other campus communities. She emphasized we are in the early stages of exploring the role the Coalition might play, and there needs to be further discussion with landlords and the City.

Project Updates

Neighborhoods Engaging with Students (NEST)

Steve Kirkelie described the Neighborhood Community Service project through the City Attorney's office. The plan is to pilot test it in the York neighborhood during spring quarter. Participants will be people charged with Minor in Possession of Alcohol (MIP) or disorderly conduct. Currently the City Attorney's office requires 30 hours of community service, and for this project they would be required to do some of it in the York neighborhood. For the pilot, only people who live in York and were charged in York will be required to do the neighborhood service. If the pilot is successful in York, it could then be implemented in other neighborhoods.

Anne Mackie stated that the participants in the neighborhood service project would be involved in a variety of neighborhood activities, including attending an association meeting, assisting with park maintenance, neighborhood clean-up days, etc. She would then sign off to verify that the work was completed. She noted that the York neighborhood association has been actively working to bring students into their association, and they currently have two students on their board.

Vanessa Melton observed that it can be really hard to meet your neighbors, and suggested that the neighborhood service projects should be designed to help students meet and interact with their neighbors.

Pat Fabiano described another "NEST" strategy, which is web-based "Off Campus Living" course. It will include "how to" information on meeting your neighbors, turning on utilities, understanding leases, etc. as well as laws and codes related to living in the community. Pat invited input on other information for the course. Patty Relay stated that information about how to have safe and legal parties should be included. Susan Adams stated that the website will be very interactive for the students and will be structured as a course in which students progress through mini 'lessons'. Pat added that the course will include a quiz and students will receive a certificate upon completion. She hoped that the certificate might be recognized by rental property owners, perhaps by giving some sort of discount to renters who presented the certificate.

Lara commented that RE Sources is proposing an end-of-the-year event in Happy Valley to recycle and donate items that would otherwise go in the dumpster. Peter Rosenberg suggested that perhaps students in the residence hall could hold a similar year-end yard sale on campus. Lara requested that Coalition members inform her of other neighborhood activities they know of that could involve students in positive ways in the neighborhood. The Coalition could be a partner in planning and carrying out these activities.

Enforcement

Lara reported that the Coalition's Enforcement work group met recently and discussed ways to expand publicity regarding enforcement. She invited any ideas regarding ways to increase publicity.

Tom Dixon reviewed two Liquor Control Board enforcement activities, compliance checks and Cops and Clerks. He described how a compliance check works: a young person is sent in to an establishment that sells alcohol and tries to buy. If they are sold alcohol, the officer goes in and informs the clerk of the violation right away. Jessica Ribera asked the age of the person they send into the business. Tom stated they are 18 or 19, and that they try to use people who look that age, not older. With Cops & Clerks, the officer poses as the store clerk and checks the ID of buyers, and cites anyone using a fake ID. He noted that this also helps train the clerk in checking ID and recognizing fake a ID.

Lt. Scott Snider then reviewed the Bellingham Police Department's Party Patrol. The Party Patrol operates a few weekends each quarter and responds to 911 phone calls reporting loud parties. The enforcement team consists of 6 BPD officers, sometimes officers from WWU or the Liquor Control Board, and the bus driver. The bus serves as a place to process the citations they give, mostly for Minor in Possession of Alcohol (MIP). He stressed the importance of people calling about loud parties and identifying themselves; this establishes a "victim" which is necessary in order for the police to issue citations.

Elizabeth Allen noted that some neighbors are reluctant to identify themselves because they fear retaliation. Lt. Snider stated that he understood the concern, but that he thought the risk of retaliation was very low, and encouraged neighbors to call 911 to report disturbing parties.

Kurt Nabbeffeld commented that the Planning Department has adopted a new policy that protects the anonymity of people reporting a code violation, revealing their identity only if the case goes to court. He suggested perhaps something similar could be implemented with calling in party complaints.

Dick Conoboy briefly shared the success his Block Watch has had in dealing with "party houses" in the Samish neighborhood. They had four party houses, and now there is only one. He agreed with Lt. Snider that the citations are effective. Pat Fabiano suggested that their approach could be shared via the Coalition newsletter.

Late Night Programming

Peter Rosenberg updated the group on the efforts to expand Late Night programming on WWU's campus. He noted that campus leaders from a variety of organizations have met several times over the last several months. The group has realized that a lot of programming already exists, but that it needs to be better coordinated and promoted. The group has also realized that some of the activities could be moved to later hours, for example from 10 PM to 1 or 2 AM, and is working on making that happen.

Peter stated that the goal is to get students engaged in socializing on campus at the very start of the school year, and plans are underway for late night activities for the first three weekends of fall quarter. The Wade King Student Recreation Center will begin their longer fall hours and host late night programs the weekend before classes start. The first weekend after classes start, the Viking Union will provide late night programs similar to those held once a quarter this year. The second weekend after classes start is WWU's first home football game and the group hopes to work with the Athletics Department to hold some alcohol free activities around the game.

Peter noted that Coalition members who are a part of businesses or organizations might consider sponsoring some of these late night activities.

Member Appreciation

Pat Fabiano gave a special recognition to Lt. Dave Doll from the Bellingham Police Department, who has transferred from Party Patrol to Dispatch. She described his valuable contributions as head of the Party Patrol for the last several years and expressed her gratitude for his participation in the Coalition. She then presented him with a plaque in appreciation of his time and effort.

Lara thanked Coalition members their attendance and participation and reminded them that the next quarterly Coalition meeting will be on May 20th.