

## Campus Community Coalition Meeting Minutes

The Bellingham—WWU Campus and Community Coalition met Friday, March 12, 2004 at 11:45 am in WWU's Old Main Board Room (room 340).

### Present:

Allison Ormsby, WWU Student and Lifestyle Advisor  
Amber Darland, New Student Programs  
Andrew Dawe, Associated Students VP Activities  
Anna Carey, New Student Programs  
April Markiewicz, Samish Neighborhood  
Barbara Brandt, South Hill Neighborhood  
Buff Schoenfeld, WWU President's Office  
Chris Berry, Campus Lutheran Ministry  
Christine Burkhart, Bellingham Police Code Enforcement  
Courtney Hiatt, Associated Students VP Student Life  
Lt. Dave Doll, Bellingham Police  
Donna Peyton, WWU Student and Lifestyle Advisor  
Dr. Eileen Coughlin, WWU VP for Student Life  
Gayle Shipley, Environmental Health and Safety  
Jamie Albert, WWU Student and Lifestyle Advisor  
Jessica Evans, WWU Student and Lifestyle Advisor  
Jim DeGolier, STAR Task Force  
John Hymas, Happy Valley Neighborhood Assn  
John Martin, WA State Liquor Control Board  
Kate Lilly, Student  
Kent Nelson, Ace Distributors  
Kunle Ojikutu, WWU Asst VP Student Affairs  
Kurt Dunbar, Puget Neighborhood Assn

Leslie Ochs, WWU Faculty  
Lidia Tillman-McAdoo  
Louise Bjornson, Bellingham City Council  
Maggie Hanson, NW WA Rental Owners Association  
Margaret Vlahos, Whatcom Community College  
Meagan Rylander, WWU Student and Lifestyle Advisor  
Officer Melissa Locke, Bellingham Police Crime Prevention  
Michael Schardein, WWU Judicial Office  
Mike Sledge, WWU Residence Life  
Pat Fabiano, WWU Prevention and Wellness Services  
Patty Relay, Up and Up Tavern  
Paul Graves, Associated Students President  
Peter Rosenberg, WWU Residence Life  
Rachel Zommick, Assoc Students VP Legislative and Community Affairs  
Renee Collins, WWU Dean of Students  
Richard Maneval, Roosevelt Neighborhood  
Sarah Rankin, WWU CASAS Coordinator  
Tanya Rowe, University Communications  
Tom Barrett, Samish Neighborhood  
Officer Tony Masias, WA State Liquor Control Board

**Guests:** Tim Thompson, WA State Liquor Control Board and Aaron Starks, WA State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse

### Welcome and Introductions

Pat Fabiano gave a special welcome to our guests. She also thanked Coalition Coordinator Lara Welker for facilitating the Planning Group meetings over the past three months.

### Planning Group Report—*Report by Leslie Ochs and Kent Nelson*

The planning group met three times during winter quarter to review the Coalition mission statement, assess Coalition resources and assets, and develop goals that address the Coalition's top priority areas.

The planning group agreed that the mission should reflect that problems relating to student alcohol use are everyone's responsibility—not just the campus and not just the community.

The proposed draft mission statement is as follows:

Promote working relationships and communication between the campus and community, striving to enhance everyone's responsibility, prevent problems

related to alcohol misuse, and contribute to the social and academic well-being of students and peace of mind of the community.

The planning group looked at assets and issues identified in interviews with CCC members and from the December Coalition meeting. Prioritizing the assets and issues led to the development of the following draft Coalition goals:

1. Decrease loud and disruptive parties on- and off-campus
2. Increase students' involvement in the neighborhoods in which they live
3. Increase enforcement of alcohol-related laws
4. Increase property managers' accountability to their tenants, properties, and neighborhoods
5. Increase and diversify CCC funding and resources

The planning group will hold its final meeting on March 25. Please contact Lara Welker with your input and comments regarding the draft mission and goals by March 19 at 650-6863 or [Lara.Welker@wwu.edu](mailto:Lara.Welker@wwu.edu).

#### **Social Activities Report**—*Report by Courtney Hiatt*

The social activities group met February 10 for the first time. Members determined that the priority of the group should be to increase collaboration among existing events sponsors, and promote free or low-cost alcohol-free activities on campus as an alternative to off-campus parties. The group is working out the logistics of creating a campus-wide events calendar.

The group is working to expand membership to include representative from the Wade King Recreation Center, AS Productions, Residence Life, AS VP for Activities, and AS Resource and Outreach Programs.

Courtney also reported that three graduate students affiliated with the Associated Students are already exploring funding for late-night activities and will be attending the next social activities group meeting on March 17.

Eventually the group would like to explore collaborations with off-campus locations as well, such as the local bowling alleys.

#### **Enforcement Report**—*Report by Lara Welker, Dave Doll, and Tony Masias*

The Enforcement Group met January 30. A representative from Bellingham City Planning present at the meeting offered to create a map of party complaint police calls and student off-campus housing to be used as a possible assessment tool.

Lt. Doll reported that the Party Patrol continues to respond to large party disruptions, with significant increases from last winter quarter to this winter quarter. They saw a 29 percent increase in parties visited, with increases of 17 percent in the number of minor in possession (MIP) citations, 33 percent in the number of furnishing alcohol to minor citations, and 44 percent

in the number of disorderly conduct citations. WWU Police participated in the winter party patrols and Dave expressed an interest in collaborating with them again in the future.

The Bellingham Police have begun contacting landlords of properties with repeated calls to parties into the station to talk about the problems occurring at their rentals. The first meeting is scheduled for the week of March 15.

The Party Patrol plans to change its strategy, possibly to include patrols on different nights since it appears that parties are now being planned on nights when it is known that Party Patrol is not operating.

Officer Tony Masias reported on a recent Cop or Clerk operation at the Superstore in Fairhaven. Cop or Clerks involves officers posing as clerks (in the case of off-premise licensees) or doormen (in the case of on-premise licensees) to check IDs of patrons attempting to purchase alcohol. In one hour of checking IDs at the Superstore, Tony cited four underage persons for presenting fake ID to purchase alcohol. In the next hour no one came in to purchase alcohol, indicating that word had spread about the Cop or Clerk operation at the normally busy corner store.

At the next location visited, Lakeway Chevron, no minors attempted to purchase alcohol but one patron told Tony that his friends had been “busted” at the Superstore. With only a few hours of work, the officers were able to raise awareness about the consequences of using fake ID.

Tony would like to see the Coalition expand the diversion program to the district court, as well as the municipal court, so that WWU students cited for liquor violations by the Liquor Control Board could be eligible for the program.

### **Neighborhood Education Report**—*Report by Tanya Rowe*

The Neighborhood Education group met February 6. The group evaluated the existing Coalition publications and explored other education mechanisms, such as workshops led by students for students. The group agreed that all education programs should reinforce the message that Bellingham is home to the students while they live here.

The group discussed the best ways to distribute existing publications and brainstormed how to get students involved. Many ideas were generated, including:

- Encourage food at neighborhood meetings to encourage student attendance
- Explore a for-credit GUR class with a neighborhood involvement component
- Add a neighborhood service component to the municipal court diversion

### **Case Study Report**—*Report by Richard Maneval*

The case study group met on January 23 and February 13 to discuss the purpose of the group and to review projects to date. The members agreed that the group should continue to operate as a think-tank dedicated to identifying best practices for addressing neighborhood problems.

### **Hospitality Resource Alliance Report—*Report by Lara Welker***

While the HRA did not meet this quarter, Lara emphasized that the group is vital to the Coalition, and that members of the hospitality industry remain active in the Coalition. Plans are being made to convene a meeting in April.

### **Update from WA State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA)—*Report by Aaron Starks***

Aaron thanked the Coalition for the great work being done in Bellingham and emphasized that this kind of work is not happening everywhere in the state. He alerted the group to the fact the Coalition's DASA grant funding is about to end (June 30) but that DASA is about to announce a competitive grant that he encouraged the Coalition to seek.

The 2004 Block Grant will have a slightly different funding source with different strings attached. Like the current grant, it is also funded by a federal grant from the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP). The emphasis of the grant will be on enforcing underage drinking laws.

### **Update on National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA) grant application—*Report from Pat Fabiano***

Pat reported that she is currently writing an application for a grant from the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA). She stated that the grant is encouraging the use of strategies that research shows to be effective to decrease alcohol use on college campuses. The application focuses on two projects that have been shown to be especially effective: continued law enforcement and the proposed NEST (Neighborhood Engagement and Students) project.

If funded, law enforcement dollars would support increased compliance checks, party emphasis patrols, shoulder taps, seller training, and alcohol availability assessments. The NEST project would have a threefold purpose: To decrease the role of alcohol in student life, increase student engagement with Bellingham neighborhoods, and increase neighborhood accountability interventions.

### **Discussion of WA House Bill 2807**

WA House Bill 2807, which recently “died” in the Senate Education Committee, has been the topic of heated debate over the last six months. The bill was introduced in response to a disruptive incident that occurred at the University of WA to force WA State universities to adopt rules governing student conduct off-campus, specifically cited or convicted incidents.

WWU Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Eileen Coughlin explained WWU's stance of opposition to WA House Bill 2807. She said that the University believes that we have a better way to address problem off-campus incidents than was articulated in the “highly interpretive”

bill. Said Coughlin, the responsibility of the University is education first and foremost. The campus judicial process is “highly prescribed” and the University believes that the best conflict resolution is direct—between the students and the community, instead of through WWU. WWU has a context of a strong partnership with the Bellingham community, as evidenced by the Coalition, and consistent and persistent leadership by Coalition facilitator Pat Fabiano both of which provide a more effective way to resolve conflicts.

Maggie Hanson stated that there was much support for the bill at a recent Northwest Rental Owners Association, though she herself did not think it was appropriate to make Western be responsible for students’ off-campus behaviors.

Associated Students President Paul Graves added that Representative Edward Murray, of the 43<sup>rd</sup> Legislative District, introduced the bill five sessions in a row and finally with the UW incident, the Senate “took notice of it.” He mentioned further that the seven people involved in the UW incident were not actually enrolled in the university at the time of the incident.

Aaron Starks offered that the Coalition represents a solution to off-campus problems and that it could serve as an opportunity to “sell” our program and build leadership as a model to other communities.

Puget neighborhood representative Kurt Dunbar acknowledged that this issue was the hot topic at his last neighborhood association meeting and that it will be good to be able to bring this information back to his group.

Roosevelt neighborhood representative Richard Maneval suggests that we invite these WA State Representatives involved in presenting the bill to our next Coalition meeting.

Rachel Zommick, AS VP for Legislative and Community Affairs, added that the Associated Students has a legal representative that could speak in Olympia on the issue and the existence of alternatives like the Coalition if the bill resurfaces.

### **Closing:**

Lara Welker thanked members for their contributions and reminded them that the next Coalition meeting will be held at the St. Luke’s Community Health Education Center on Friday, June 4.