

Campus Community Coalition Meeting Minutes

The Bellingham—WWU Campus and Community Coalition met Friday, June 4, 2004
at 11:45 am at St. Luke's Community Health Education Center.

Present:

Andrew Dawe, Associated Students VP Activities
Anne Mackie, York Neighborhood
April Markiewicz, Samish Neighborhood
Barbara Brandt, South Hill Neighborhood
Barney Goltz, Cornwall Neighborhood
Brian Pahl, WWU Men's Violence Prevention Coord.
Brian Waller, The Beaver Inn
Buff Schoenfeld, WWU President's Office
Chris Neumann, WWU Student / York Neighborhood
Christine Burkhart, Bellingham Police Code Enforcement
Courtney Hiatt, Associated Students VP Student Life
Dale Monroe, Puget Neighborhood
Frank Ward, Property Owner
Gayle Shipley, Environmental Health and Safety
Jan Rystrom, Haggen Foods
Chief Jim Shaw, University Police
Joe Fuller, Whatcom County Health Department
John Goodman, Wild Buffalo
John Hymas, Happy Valley Neighborhood Assn
John Martin, WA State Liquor Control Board
Kurt Nabbefeld, City of Bellingham Planning Dept.
Larry Farr, Downtown Renaissance Network

Leslie Ochs, WWU Faculty
Lidia Tillman-McAdoo, Property Owner
Margaret Vlahos, Whatcom Community College
Officer Melissa Locke, Bellingham Police Crime
Prevention
Michael Schardein, WWU Judicial Office
Mike Sledge, WWU Residence Life
Nancy Davis, South Hill Neighborhood
Pat Fabiano, WWU Prevention and Wellness Services
Pat Wentworth, St. Joseph's Hospital
Patty Relay, World Famous Up and Up Tavern
Paul Cocke, University Communications
Renee Collins, WWU Dean of Students
Richard Maneval, Roosevelt Neighborhood
Sandy Jones, Ebright-Wight Property Management
Sarah Rankin, WWU CASAS Coordinator
Sheri Emerson, Sehome Neighborhood
Steve Kirkelie, City Attorney's Office
Tanya Rowe, University Communications
Tom McKernan, Wild Buffalo
Officer Tony Masias, WA State Liquor Control Board
Vanessa Melton, WWU Student / Lifestyle Advisor

Guests:

Welcome and Introductions

Pat Fabiano welcomed the group and gave special recognition to two of our members: University Communications Assistant Director Tanya Rowe and Liquor Control Board Officer Tony Masias. Rowe will be leaving WWU to join the Bellingham School District as Director of Communications. Masias recently received the Liquor Control Board's Officer of the Year award. Congratulations to them both!

Planning Group Report—*Report by Coalition Coordinator Lara Welker*

Lara Welker reviewed the revised Coalition mission, which arose from a need voiced by members at previous meetings to clarify the Coalition's purpose. Welker also listed the Coalition goals for the upcoming years, which the planning group arrived at from problem areas identified by the larger Coalition.

Welker acknowledged the dedication of the planning group, which met every three weeks between January and April 2004 to make these revisions. The planning group was comprised of the following Coalition members:

Kent Nelson, Ace Beverage
Pat Fabiano, WWU Prevention and Wellness Services
Leslie Ochs, WWU Faculty
Frank Ward, Landlord
Renee Collins, WWU Student Affairs
Michael Sledge, WWU Residences
Melissa Locke, Bellingham Police Department
Richard Maneval, Roosevelt Neighborhood Association
Kunle Ojikutu, WWU Student Affairs
Brian Waller, The Beaver Inn
Vanessa Melton, WWU Student
Jim Shaw, WWU Police Department
Tom Dixon, Liquor Control Board
Jim DeGolier, STAR Task Force

Welker reported that the group, representing the diversity of the Coalition, has agreed to continue as the Coalition's steering committee which will address issues affecting the entire coalition, such as funding, evaluation, and publicity.

The revised mission of the Coalition is to:

Promote working relationships and communication between the campus and community by striving to enhance shared responsibility, prevent and address problems related to student alcohol misuse, and contribute to the health and safety of the entire community.

The goals identified by the planning group are as follows:

1. Increase students' involvement in the neighborhoods in which they live.
2. Increase compliance with alcohol related laws through education and enforcement.
3. Decrease loud and disruptive parties on- and off-campus.
4. Increase property managers' accountability to their tenants and neighborhoods.
5. Increase WWU's efforts to promote responsible choices and address student alcohol misuse through prevention education.
6. Increase and diversify Coalition funding and resources.

Richard Maneval commented that the experience working with the planning group was a great opportunity. Jim Shaw expressed his appreciation for Welker's efforts in facilitating the group, which was echoed by other group members. Fabiano commented how grateful she was to have student input from Vanessa Melton.

Anne Mackie of the York Neighborhood Association mentioned that she liked the revisions so much that she plans to reprint them in the York Neighborhood newsletter.

April Markiewicz of the Samish Neighborhood Association asked why the mission statement and goals do not mention other drugs besides alcohol. Fabiano responded that the reasoning for focusing specifically on alcohol is two-fold: 1) alcohol remains the drug of choice for college students at WWU and nationwide and 2) the Coalition's funding sources are alcohol prevention-based.

Feedback on the mission and goals is appreciated. Please contact Lara Welker by June 30 at 650-6863 or Lara.Welker@wwu.edu.

Hospitality Resource Alliance Report—*Report by Brian Waller*

The Hospitality Resource Alliance (HRA) met May 12 to discuss the benefits of membership in the HRA and to review past activities. The group agreed to reactivate the "Support Your Server" education campaign to inform patrons (many of whom are WWU students) about laws governing over-service.

Liquor Control Board Officer Tony Masias added that the HRA is the only one of its kind in WA State where licensees have a forum to discuss issues with the Liquor Control Board in an informal setting.

Patty Relay asked about the HRA's mission statement, and Welker stated she would send it out to Coalition members with the meeting minutes.

Neighborhood Education Report—*Report by Sheri Emerson*

The Neighborhood Education group met April 2 and May 7. The group drafted a plan for the 2004-2005 academic year that focuses on increasing students' caring for, ownership in, and connection to the Bellingham neighborhoods. The plan emphasizes:

- Welcoming students to Bellingham neighborhoods
- Communicating expectations about living in neighborhoods
- Fostering positive relationships among students and long-term neighbors

Proposed activities for fall quarter include:

- Working with neighborhood associations to hold neighborhood events that draw student participation
- Placing articles in the local media about positive student involvement in neighborhoods, neighborhood expectations, and the Campus Community Coalition
- Information tables at WWU's Information Fair in Red Square—one for the Police Department's Party Patrol and one focused on educating students about Bellingham neighborhoods and how they can get involved.

Proposed activities for winter and spring quarters focus on providing information about off-campus life for students living in residence halls that are planning to move off-campus.

Case Study Report—*Report by Officer Melissa Locke*

The case study group met April 9 to discuss the idea of implementing a neighborhood community service project that could be used by Municipal Court as another diversion option for students who have received alcohol-related citations. The proposed project would be similar to the community service program currently used by Municipal Court, except that service would be done in neighborhoods instead of community agencies. The group developed recommendations and guidelines for the proposed project that are currently under consideration by Municipal Court staff.

Barbara Brandt of the South Hill Neighborhood Association commented that she would like to see clarification on what projects would be meaningful and interactive between students and neighborhoods, as opposed to just picking up trash. Anne Mackie (York Neighborhood) offered that her neighborhood has a long list of projects, such as an ongoing historic preservation project, that would be meaningful instead of what might be considered punitive. Lara Welker emphasized that the project is in the very early stages of development, and would likely start out small as a pilot in one or two neighborhoods.

Social Activities Report—*Report by Andrew Dawe*

The social activities group met March 17 and May 26. The group identified campus organizations and groups that sponsor social activities and agreed that increasing collaboration among such groups as the Wade King Student Recreation Center (SRC), Residence Life, and Associated Students is more important than offering more activities.

The group met with staff from Academic Technology and User Services, which operates WWU's website, to discuss how the online All-University Events Calendar is being updated. The calendar may help campus organizations to coordinate and promote campus activities and events.

The group also met with student organizers of the recent "Late Show in the Viking Union" event to discuss successes and challenges the event presented. The event featured a slide, movies, and a game room in the Underground Coffeehouse. According to the organizers, the only real problem reported by attendees was that it was "too crowded in the game room."

Lara Welker commented that some students stated that the event filled students' need for a space to gather in a casual setting on campus. Further, the event was appealing in that it provided a sense of community among students.

Chris Neumann, a WWU student and representative from the York Neighborhood Association, noted that as a freshman and sophomore living on-campus in Fairhaven, he appreciated having access to the game room there. He said that events like the "Late Show" would provide the same sort of recreational "hang out."

The event drew 450 student participants, mostly 18-20-year-old freshmen and sophomores living on-campus. Pat Fabiano hailed the event a success, especially because:

1. 18-20-year-old students say they “don’t have anything to do” late-night on the weekend
2. Neighborhood residents say Residence Hall students (primarily 18-20 years old) come into their neighborhoods and cause disruptions
3. Bar owners don’t want these underage students attempting to gain entrance to their establishments

Based on the success of this pilot event, the Associated Students Board is exploring the possibility of increasing late-night events (10:00 pm to 2:00 am) at the Viking Union to at least once per quarter.

Enforcement Report—*Report by Tony Masias*

Officer Tony Masias reported that the Liquor Control Board is currently conducting increased compliance checks, which measure licensees’ compliance with liquor laws. He said that overall non-compliance rate in Bellingham is at 30 percent, which he noted was “not a good rate” in comparison to the WA State average.

Update on Coalition Funding—*Report from Pat Fabiano*

Pat Fabiano reported that WWU is currently seeking funding from the National Institute on Alcoholism and Alcohol Abuse (NIAAA) and the Washington State Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) to continue the activities of the Campus Community Coalition, which has been funded by federal, state, and local sources since its inception in 1999.

Fabiano said that the proposals that have been submitted to NIAAA and DASA have a good chance of being funded because the Coalition already has three important collaborations in place between WWU and 1) Bellingham neighborhoods, 2) local law enforcement agencies, and 3) the hospitality industry. According to Fabiano, research shows that all three of these partners must be involved in prevention efforts for them to be effective.

NIAAA is seeking to fund projects for up to three years. The proposals submitted must include an emphasis on engaging students in the community. The WWU proposal, if funded, would bring neighborhoods and students together on service-learning projects supervised by WWU faculty.

DASA is seeking to fund projects for up to two years. The proposals submitted must emphasize enforcement of underage drinking laws, which is reflected in the name of DASA’s grant program, “Reducing Underage Drinking,” or RUaD. The WWU proposal, if funded, would provide funding for Bellingham Police Department to supplement its party emphasis patrols and for the Liquor Control Board to supplement its compliance check activities.

Fabiano also reported that Kent Nelson of Ace Beverage Distributors is working on accessing funds from Miller Brewing Company Miller has a mandate to provide matching funds for

activities that promote education about responsible use. Nelson's effort contributing funding for the Coalition is among the first from within the membership.. Fabiano acknowledged his initiative as symbolic gesture to share responsibility for financial sustaining the Coalition. Welker noted that finding sustainable funding is the number one priority for the steering committee in the coming year.

Student Appreciation:

The Coalition acknowledged the valuable contributions of the student members who will graduate this quarter. Pat Fabiano presented the following students with certificates of appreciation:

Courtney Hiatt, Associated Students Vice President for Student Life

Vanessa Melton, Drug Information Center Coordinator and Lifestyle Advisor

Andrew Dawe, Associated Students Vice President for Activities and Lifestyle Advisor

Paul Graves, 2003-2004 Associated Students President (not present to receive the award)