Community Relations Council
Meeting Minutes

Date: February 21, 2017

Location: Lowell School, 1640 Kalmia Road NW
Parkside Building, Library

Time: 6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

- Bradley Frey
- Sharon Giles and Columbus Giles, Sr.
- Cathy Creech
- Cynthiana Lightfoot by t/c
- Teresa Park by t/c
- Wes Bizzell
- Marcie Bane
- Joe McQueeney (Lowell School)
- Chris Ginter (Lowell School)

Fraser site.

- The Fraser site plan (commonly known as "Tab B") was circulated;
- Lowell shared its intention to "repurpose" the same lights that were or will be removed from the site. They are identical to all of the other light posts on campus, but will be retrofitted with modern interior fixtures. Lowell has three such light posts, one of which has two fixtures and the other two of which have a single fixture. The lights will be placed on the peninsulas between the parking spaces. Lowell stated the light emitted from these fixtures will be consistent with District of Columbia regulations and was asked whether the District of Columbia regulations address the requirements for lighting close to adjoining property. Lowell stated it did not know but would look into it. Lowell will share more detailed information as it is available;
- Lowell is in the process of selecting design and engineering contractors and hopes to be ready to file for a permit within 60 days. Lowell acknowledged its obligation under the Neighborhood Cooperation Agreement to "consult with the owners of abutting properties regarding further refinement of the lighting plan" and stated it would share its lighting plan and would consult with neighbors on the plan before it is finalized.

Playground.

- The rear playground should be complete within a few weeks, with the exception of the sport court which will be built on the far northern end of the playground, closest to the alley;
- There will be no additional lights added to the site;
- There will likely be a new fence constructed that will run from, roughly, Lowell's alley gate down the hill to, roughly, the facilities garage.

Traffic and parking.

- Lowell was informed that since the October 2016 meeting, there has been noticeable improvement in parking enforcement during the morning drop-off hours and was commended for improved morning peak carpool parking management on Kalmia Road;

- Lowell also was informed that during the afternoon peak carpool period, Lowell is not enforcing the parking restrictions on Kalmia Road as required by the neighborhood agreement and the Zoning Order and was again requested to do so.

Meeting minutes.

- Lowell was informed that the October 2016 minutes filed with the Zoning Commission contained changes that were different than the minutes circulated and agreed upon by the Community Relations Council. Lowell was requested to correct the minutes filed with the Zoning Commission and to refrain from making changes to the minutes after an agreement has been reached.
- Lowell stated it submitted minutes of CRC meetings to the Zoning Commission voluntarily and is not required to do so. Lowell was informed the Zoning Commission order expressly requires Lowell to submit copies of its minutes annually.
- Discussion about possibility of recording meetings;
- Various statements about need for meeting minutes to be a fair and accurate reflection of the conversations that occur during our meetings.

General Discussion

- A board member expressed the desire to have a good working relationship with the neighbors. Lowell was informed that neighbors welcome a good working relationship and want to avoid problems such as those created in the past from misrepresentations made to the Zoning Commission and to neighbors.
- Lowell will circulate its lighting plan, apprise neighbors of the permit process for the Fraser site, circulate upcoming dates of activities that may impact the neighborhood, and circulate dates for upcoming meetings.
- Lowell is not sure if there will be a dedication for the new playground.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 pm