Notes from the Lowell Community Relations Council Meeting
Prepared by Lowell School
April 7, 2020, 6:30 pm
By Zoom call

In attendance

- Cynthiana Lightfoot
- Sharon Giles
- Edmund Atkins
- Amy Mauser
- Marcie Bane
- Columbus Giles
- Wendell Hughes
- Donna Lindner (Lowell)
- Chris Ginter (Lowell)

Lowell Update

- Lowell's campus remains closed. At this time we are committed to remaining closed until the end of April, though we are reevaluating this decision on a regular basis.
    - We are offering a robust synchronous learning program to all of our students.
    - We are offering a robust aftercare program for all families who have chosen it.
    - We have essential employees coming to campus and intend to offer "restocking" days when our faculty and staff (also essential!) can visit briefly to restock materials and supplies.
    - We are analyzing the viability of our summer camp program.
    - We are studying the relief that the federal government is offering through their recent legislation.

Fraser site

- Lowell has no new information to share. No internal conversations have taken place since last we met.

Traffic/Neighborhood Agreement

- Work on a Traffic Calming Investigation continues for the 1600 and 1700 blocks of Kalmia Road and the 7700 block of 17th Street. A neighbor cited an unsuccessful outcome to a similar process on a nearby street.
- Lowell is one of 10 schools citywide selected for a Spot Safety Analysis to be conducted by Toole Design, a consultant chosen by the administrators of the Safe Routes to School program. Toole "should" conduct an Engineering Analysis of the area within up to ¼ mile of Lowell to identify safety problems and make recommendations on how to remedy safety issues identified during the analysis. Data collection varies according to conditions at each school.
- The Consultant will offer with recommendations on how to improve operations at the subject school. This should be done by before and after drawings of the safety problems that were observed.
- To date, Lowell has had an introductory call with Toole in which the Traffic Calming Survey we are shepherding was raised, as were similar Surveys which have recently been submitted by residents of neighboring blocks.
- A DDOT employee was invited to attend this call but did not join us.

- Concern was raised about the potential for an increase in construction vehicle traffic as work increases on the Walter Reed site. Some effective enforcement of cut-through traffic rules for construction vehicles on Kalmia Road recently was noted.

Signage proposal

- The Historic Preservation Review Board has indicated that they support our signage project. Lowell and our consultant are in the process of triple checking every detail of our proposal and will forward the proposal to various city agencies shortly (or when the agencies are prepared to accept proposals for review, whichever comes first).

Front playground

- Lowell has officially closed our playing fields, courts, and playgrounds until further notice and posted a number of signs stating this. The decision is in line with Mayor Bowser's recent stay-at-home order.

New business

- No new business was introduced.

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Upcoming dates of interest

Auction	May 9
All School Picnic	June 9
Graduation	June 10
Camp begins	June 22
Camp session 2 ends	July 31
School offices closed	August 3-21
Faculty returns	August 31
Student open house	September 8
First day of school	September 9

Upcoming meeting dates

- July 7, 2020
- October 6, 2020
- January 12, 2021
- April 6, 2021