

GOOD NEIGHBOR MEETING

MINUTES

February 15, 2022 | 4:00 p.m. | Jesuit High School Welcome Center

Jesuit High School Representatives:

Fadia Desmond, Assistant Principal
Jim Donahue '75, Board Member
Maureen Longyear, Vice President-Advancement
John McGarry, S.J., President/Board Member
Julie Nauman, Board Member
Elizabeth Sands, Director-Mar/Com
Paul Speers, Manager-Facilities
Terry Street '72, Board Member
Mary Teichert, Board Member
Hank Weinberger, Director-Athletics
Mitch Zak, Board Member

Neighborhood Attendees:

Steve DeRoss [Latarn Court]
Jim Daugherty '70 [4748 Marlborough Way]
Mike Durant [4749 Marlborough Way]
Kelly & Elizabeth Hughes
Moulds [Pacidilly]
Valerie Scott [Jacob Lane]
(names above indicate those that were shared)

Called to Order

Fr. McGarry called the meeting to order. He welcomed all to the meeting and shared openings comments: It is good to be back on campus and have an in-person meeting. Due to the size of the group, the meeting is being held in the Welcome Center. The goal of tonight's meeting is to share some Jesuit updates and then open discussion for questions/concerns; this information will be forwarded to the Jesuit Board of Trustees.

Introductions

Fr. McGarry had each person introduce themselves and relationship to Jesuit.

Jesuit Updates

Possibility of lighting on the lower field: Mr. Zak shared the following: The update this evening continues discussion from two previous Good Neighbor Meetings. Jesuit feels it is important to stay connected every step of the way and continue to share our plans. We appreciate the feedback we have received and have put it to good use. Here are the latest updates:

- Submitted preliminary application to county; this officially begins the process. We are at the mercy of their schedule, so don't have a definite timeline to share at this time.
- Reasons behind lighting project: protecting the health and wellbeing of our students, coaches, and spectators. Due to Sacramento heat and the health risks that causes, using the stadium only during the day limits the time we can use the field and actually increases things like traffic, etc.
- 4 main issues that have been raised and our follow-up to these concerns:
 - Light Intrusion: Jesuit has already received certification from the International Dark Sky Association that the lighting itself will be such that it will not impact the neighbors. The new lights will actually improve upon the current temporary lights
 - Sound/PA: Still working on this and looking at different positioning of speakers, etc.
 - Traffic and Parking: Don't anticipate much change in the impact here. The addition of the lights will allow us to space out games more and actually improve traffic flow. Depending on the success of our teams, we're expecting approximately 10 games that may draw large crowds
 - Neighborhood Policing/Security/Clean-up: Have hosted large scale event and implemented the suggestions from previous meetings and neighbor calls. Have added parent volunteers to manage parking/flow. Have not received any neighbor feedback since adding these improvements.

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- Athletic Director Comments:
Mr. Weinberger shared the following comments: Took the last two meetings to heart. Concerns of parking and trash were heard and Jesuit is focused on addressing them thoroughly. He met with core Athletic Staff prior to big games, created a strategy plan to specifically improve issues identified at Good Neighbor meetings, and implemented those actions. Due to feedback received, these seem to have addressed concerns raised.

General Discussion/Questions:

- Question: Following up on Mr. Zak's opening comments, who is helping Jesuit with the applications? Board Members with specific areas of expertise include: Mr. Donahue - attorney; Ms. Nauman – experience with county process, permitting, and entitlement process; Mr. Street - general contractor.
- Comment: Mr. Donahue shared that he was encouraged by the proactive approach Mr. Weinberger was taking within the Athletic Department to address neighbor concerns. Improvements have been noted that neighbors are seeing a much improved experience, however there are also still things we are focused on to make more improvements:
 - Look closer at actual day/game parking and ingress/egress at the corner of American River Drive and Tennyson. Turning onto American River Drive from Tennyson is very dangerous; lots of big family SUVs and visibility is low. People park in front of fire hydrant every time and no parking enforcement. Creates low visibility. Willhaggin/Del Dayo Meeting also brought up some of these same issues.
- Questions: Mr. Moulds shared concerns for Piccadilly Circle and the impact from the speakers. He raised the following questions:
 - Was there an Environmental Protection plan in place? Yes, it will be part of the process.
 - Can that be shared with the neighbors? Public record, so yes.
 - How many games/will the stadium ever be leased or loaned out to other schools? No, there is no plan to do that. We are a non-profit, we have limits to what we can do in terms of allowing other groups to use our facilities. We will not be renting out the facility to other high schools.
 - How will late night security and noise at night be handled? Extra security will be hired and we will identify key places to have them monitor so that the needs of our neighbors and concern for them is met. We always make sure students leave campus timely and safely after events. We staff properly for every event and no one leaves until all students are picked up and gone off campus. Jesuit has a strong relationship with Sac County Sheriffs and Highway Patrol; we partner with them to make sure safety is always met.
 - Street parking? Jesuit works with San Juan Unified to park people at Rio. It was new at last event and word didn't quite reach as widely as we'd hoped. For future events we will make sure community members know and that will hopefully take care of street parking concerns.
 - Start of games? Typically, 5:00/7:15 pm (approximately).
 - Neighbors are worried about students from other schools hanging around after night events, not necessarily Jesuit students. What are you doing about that? Jesuit always communicates expectations of guests to those in attendance.
- Comments: Mr. Moulds shared additional comments:
 - Lighting Update Via Zoom April 2021: Lots of concerns shared and grievances from past students as well. We know we're living next to a school and all that that comes with - Medic truck at games, track meet noise, cars, etc. There always seems to be boys screaming at lunch; probably did the same at my age. We get it, school comes with noise.
 - Lights are a bit different, but still ok. The noise that comes with the later games is the problem. Moving the PA speakers had a significant effect and we thank you for that. Continued concerns:
 - September 10, PA system was being used very loudly; people screaming into it. Also happened before Thanksgiving. Yelling into the PA system creates a much louder noise. The decibels coming out of the speaker/PA is what matters for noise control, even if the speakers are set to a certain level.

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- Dr. Desmond responded:
We know the event you're talking about; it was a new event for us - a Holy Bowl rally. We recognize we should have taken care of the speaker level for this and will in the future for any events of this nature.
- Security during events: Can the sheriff/extra security extend off campus into the key neighborhood areas? Guests from other schools and other attendee's park and linger in these places after games and that is an issue.
 - Dr. Desmond responded: Yes, we can easily do this.
- Question/Neighbor: What is going on with the turf? Jesuit is working with the turf company regarding the warranty issue. We expect a solution soon.
- Comments/Mr. DeRoss: Expressed concerns about parking, dances and that hanging out in Lantern Court continues to be an issue. He commented there is not enough signage, there continues to be outside use – people not connected to Jesuit. He suggested shutting things down at a particular time and making sure everyone leaves at that time would be good. Feels that all JHS employees should know the rules and abide by the rules.
 - Note: Lantern court resident who couldn't come to the meeting will be meeting with Fr. McGarry privately.
- Question/Neighbor: The concern for safety regarding runners run in the morning was raised. However, they mentioned that this is the best hour to conduct practices or games, and air is freshest and coolest. Could shifting times of practices be looked at? This would also address safety issues for heat, etc. Will practices be extended into the evening as well with the lights? Will lights be on every night of the week if so? How many organizations will really be using the facility at night? Will this change in 5 years? 10 years?
 - Answers shared:
 - Permits will dictate how long and when lights can be on.
 - Morning games and practices can be looked into, but not sure how feasible. League rules will need to be considered, etc.
 - New lights will be less intrusive than lights now.
 - Safety is always biggest concern for all and will always be part of public discussion.
 - Other groups that use our facilities: St. Francis. County allows us to share our property with other non-profit entities. Lots of paperwork involved.
 - We want to give our time and energy to our JHS students and not outside organizations that we would have to host and organize staffing for. We have so much going on that there is not enough time for others to use our facility.
 - Having off duty officers around helps with crowd control and behavior. Put things in writing and distribute that information into the neighborhood.
 - We certainly try to do our best, and at the same time, unexpected things happen during the course of the school year.
 - The current configuration of our field can accommodate 5 different sports
 - Almost every year, our teams go to the playoffs
 - This means regular season evening games and playoff games
 - It is virtually impossible to predict post-season playoff games, however we will do our best keep impact at a minimum and keep our neighbors informed.
 - Things are constantly changing, especially due to COVID guidelines/restrictions. We ask our neighbors for some flexibility. Not everything can be set in stone and in writing.
- Comment/Neighbor: Shared comment from Zoom meeting recap: Played football all through childhood. Pollution/air quality plays a factor in timing of things. Didn't always have games due to these things as well. This needs to be looked at equally as well.

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- Question/Neighbor: Since COVID, there is no pick-up/drop-off on Jacob Lane – permanent or just temporary? This has been appreciated by all of the neighbors along Jacob Lane.
 - Permanent.
 - Students are instructed by grade level for drop-off and pick-up and its working well.
- Comment/Neighbor: I appreciate that you don't want to give a number and be set in stone; then don't give a number at all. Saying 10 will stick in people's minds and if its way more than that, it will become an issue. Don't be disingenuous. And regarding sound: you have control over this. Wifi/bluetooth options for headphones, etc. Leverage technology options for sound as well as lights.

Chapel and Gym Use: Dr. Desmond has previously shared the documents for use of the Phelan Chapel and Barry Gym. Tonight she shared an update about **the need to hold** outdoor student events for the remainder of the year **due to County/State COVID guidelines limiting indoor events:**

- Friday, April 1 and Friday, April 8: Open Dances in the middle of campus. Two significant changes being made to address neighbor concerns:
 - Time frame: ending music at 9 pm. Students must be picked up by 9:30 pm.
 - Pick-up: restricted to one side of campus. No pick-up off of Fair Oaks Blvd. as it is unsafe for students to be picked up there.
 - Will be putting a barrier in place so it will prevent them going that way.

Easy Ways to Stay in Touch with Jesuit:

Mrs. Sands shared the following:

- Good neighbor page on the website – will add links and info there.
<https://www.jesuithighschool.org/good-neighbor>
- Please go in and add your email and contact info so we can reach out with Jesuit news and updates.

Final Comments & Thank You:

In closing, Fr. McGarry shared a reminder - no lights going into the upper field. Once renovated, it will alleviate some of the pressure on the lower field and help with that. Fr. McGarry concluded the meeting with his thanks for all of the good input and feedback and shared that all Jesuit Board Members and employees have been listening closely and taking notes. We will do our best to incorporate all of these best practices into our events on campus and particularly for the lighting process. Thank you for your participation.