# **Boston College Task Force (DRAFT)**

Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 20, 2007 Brighton Marine Medical Center 6:30p.m.-8:30p.m.

# I. Attendance:

# **Boston College Task Force**

Jean Woods, Chair Janet Tambascio Fraher Kevin Carragee John Bruno Tim Burke

## **Boston College**

Jeanne Levesque Evie Kuran Tom Keady Bill Mills

#### **VHB**

Howard Muise Ken Schwartz

#### Sasaki

Ricardo Dumont

### **Elected Officials**

Representative Michael Moran Senator Steven Tolman

#### **City of Boston**

John FitzGerald, Boston Redevelopment Authority Katelyn Sullivan, Boston Redevelopment Authority Paul Holloway, Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services

The meeting started at 6:40 p.m.

m then introduced representatives from VHB/Vanasse Hangen Brustlin,

Inc

. and Sasaki.

Ricardo Dumont of Sasaki started the presentation with an overview of BC's values and mission. He then acknowledged the Task Force's concerns of open space, mods site, undergraduate housing and enrollment. Then he went over BC's design concept of a connected system with open space and mentioned the ideas of linked quadrangles and central green. The goal, he said, is a unified campus. As the presentation went on with regards to traffic, open space, proposed buildings and effects on community there were questions being asked by the audience.

Once the design concept was outlined there was a cluster of comments related to map orientation such as names of buildings, gray colored area (not owned by BC) and open space near the reservoir. There were also questions on handicapped accessibility, impact of fields on nearby Edison Middle School, seating for the proposed baseball field, preservation of the stone wall along Commonwealth Avenue and the T stop relocation.

There were multiple questions expressing concern with regard to the long range plans of adding parking spaces for 500+ cars to the area and the traffic that would be generated. Exits and intersections were brought up, specifically level of services and intersection grades. One member of the public asked why BC thought that the relocation of Thomas More Drive would benefit the public, not just BC. It was pointed out by BC that the new intersection would be more efficient from both a pedestrian and vehicular aspect. There will be a whole meeting dedicated to the discussion of transportation, and that it might be a better idea to leave the specific questions until then.

After the presentation John Fitzgerald (BRA) opened the meeting for discussion and questions but asked that members of the Task Force be given an opportunity to go first. At this point, Tom (BC) said thank you to the Task Force/audience and reminded everyone that what they just saw in the presentation was a 'Vision'. He touched upon how BC houses 85% of its undergraduate students which is more than any other college in Boston and that BC is trying to increase this number. He also wanted to stress that BC is not increasing enrollment.

Tim Burke, Task Force member, inquired about the zoning of the remaining parcels on the Brighton campus still under the ownership of the Archdiocese. Jeanne Levesque indicated that this land was zoned under Article 51 of the Code as a Conservation Protection Subdistrict. This did not mean that the land could not be developed, but certain restrictions would apply. The parcels acquired by Boston College from the Archdiocese, however, are now included in the Boston College institutional master plan district since the approval of the Brighton Campus amendment in 2006.

The proposed baseball field was of concern to many who felt that the 2,000 seat field would have a major negative impact and affect the quality of life in the area. John Bruno, Task Force member questioned why there needed to be

There was an announcement about a public event and then