

Boston College Task Force

Tuesday, March 20, 2007

Tom introduced the team from BC, VHB and Sasaki and said that the agenda would be housing and athletics and next month will be on transportation. Additionally, the IMPNF for the 10 year Institutional Master Plan will most likely be filed in May.

After an intro from Tom, Linda Eastley of Sasaki started the presentation. There are two concurrent processes taking place: the long term 30-50 year plan and the 10 year IMP. Linda mentioned strategic initiatives, planning and design principles for the 30-50 year plan.

Housing is very important to the students, said Linda and students for the most part want to be on campus. BC wants to make sure that the student's experience is a holistic one. BC is not a "suitcase college"—students stay around on the weekends and enjoy the social life on campus—which results in their students having greater

It was suggested by Task Force member John Bruno that at the next meeting BC come in with different housing scenarios.

Linda Eastley then started the second half of the presentation on the athletic and recreation goals which include activities for all students and growing intramural and club sports recreation time. She then gave a description of:

1. Brighton Fields
2. Tennis Center
3. Rec. Center
4. Shea Field
5. Newton Fields Support Building

Questions were raised about community use of the fields on the Brighton campus. BC responded that the College would be open to allowing community use as long as the neighbors supported it. In Newton the neighbors of one BC field opposed allowing community use due to the impacts on the immediate neighbors. If community use were allowed, it would be under supervised conditions only. Access to the fields would be controlled and BC staff would supervise any community use.

After the presentation there were questions on the proposed fences and gates around the fields which could be designed in wrought iron, lighting of the playing fields until 10pm during the fall and spring seasons, blimp activity, which is not sanctioned by Boston College, during sporting events such as football, the height of the tennis center which will be 3 levels, and summer camps/clinics which may be a possibility.

Points that were brought up after the presentation include providing handouts so community members can see names of the streets, an acoustical study of the playing fields should be done, the 200 car garage and the 2000 seat baseball field should be rethought, a walking path around the fields could be a community benefit, environmental impacts should be studied and that present community members are encouraged to bring more people to task force meetings because there is strength in numbers.

Lastly, Gerald said that the idea of having sub-committees will be taken into consideration to focus on particular areas of interest, such as the details of the playing fields, which are of primary interest to the abutters of the proposed fields.

The meeting ended at 8:36.