

# College Council on Community Policy

## Meeting Minutes November 1, 2013

**Members Present:** Beth Bone, Margaret Bruzelius, Carla Cooke, Ashavan Doyon, Brent Durbin, Beth Gillespie, Ralph Gould, Jr., Stacie Hagenbaugh (chair), Sam Masinter, Dalia Mehiar, Lisa Nawrocki, Halley Ofner, Jennifer Pekol, Danielle Ramdath, Donna Safford, Laura Smiarowski, Elise Smith, Fraser Stables, Susan Stratton Sayre, Barbara Williams

**Guests Present:** Gary Hartwell, Project Manager, Facilities Management  
Julie Ohotnicky, Dean of Students

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The meeting began at 12:05 p.m. Chair Stacie Hagenbaugh opened the meeting by asking those present to introduce themselves to the group.

Danielle Ramdath gave a follow-up report on the issue of electronic cigarettes in residential houses that was discussed at the October meeting. She stated that the Northampton Department of Public Health already prohibits electronic cigarettes in the workplace. Since Smith's residential houses are a work environment for staff, the smoking of electronic cigarettes is therefore prohibited.

Beth Gillespie and Laura Smiarowski spoke about the October 25 workshop, "Fossil Fuel Divestment: Good for Smith, Good for the World?" This was the first in a series of upcoming workshops sponsored by CEEDS to discuss the fossil fuel divestiture movement.

Stacie introduced Gary Hartwell, who described the Elm Street crosswalk project of 2010. A transportation engineering firm with expertise in promoting pedestrian safety in urban areas designed and implemented new crosswalk markings and bike lanes. The crosswalks, bike lanes, and related signage were designed to reduce vehicular speeds, thus improving pedestrian safety. Facilities Management refreshes the lines as needed; the trimming of trees and shrubs is the responsibility of the City of Northampton. There is a speed indicator on Elm Street that is capable of providing real-time data, such as the number of cars and vehicular speeds. This speed indicator has been broken for quite a while, and there are no funds set aside currently to repair it. Apparently, neither Facilities Management nor Campus Police are conducting a safety review of the Smith parking garage crosswalk, in light of the recent pedestrian incident. Chief of Campus Police Ralph Gould noted that the incident is the responsibility of the Northampton Police Department.

Stacie introduced Julie Ohotnicky, who provided information and showed drawings for the Wellness Center to be built near Belmont Avenue. The Mason Hall Infirmary on Paradise Road was built in 1918 and is in need of major repairs; it is to be demolished. The new Wellness Center will provide counseling, medical services, and wellness education. The groundbreaking will be held on November 12 for the two-story, 12,000 square foot, \$6.1 million facility. It will nestle behind the Mendenhall Center for the Performing Arts, with parking along Belmont Avenue. The new building will incorporate the architecture of nearby buildings, and incorporate nature in its woodwork, stonework, indoor waterfall, and outdoor plaza. The building will contain medical examination rooms, classrooms for education, a meeting room for group counseling, and lounge space. The Wellness Center is expected to open in August 2014, in time for the next school year.

The meeting ended at 1:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: Friday, December 6, 2013, at noon (Campus Center 103/104).

Minutes respectfully submitted by Beth Bone.