

Good Neighbor Program Fall 2019 Meeting Notes

Submitted by: Colleen Arrigo

October 7, 2019

4:00 p.m.

Staff Members Present: Fr. John McGarry, SJ (President), Ian Farr (Assistant Principal for Academics), Fadia Desmond (Assistant Principal for Instruction and Student Life), Rod Theodule (Assistant Principal and Dean of Students), Gerry Lane (Director of Campus Safety), Maureen Longyear (Vice President for Advancement), Anne Long (CFO), Colleen Arrigo (Executive Assistant to the President), Elizabeth Sands (Director of Marketing and Communications), Hank Weinberger (Athletic Director)

Neighbors Present: Mr. Kelly Hughes, Mr. Steve DeRoss, Ms. Valorie Scott, Mrs. Janet Delevan, Mr. and Mrs. Press, Ms. Sunny Mills, Ms. Katherine Coulter, Mr. and Mrs. Moulds, Mr. and Mrs. Redmon, Ms. Jane Mouton

John McGarry, S.J., welcomed our neighbors and began with prayer. He then asked everyone to introduce themselves. Following the introductions, he gave an update on several campus projects that have been areas of interest or concern to the neighbors, including the relocation of the stadium speakers, the two recent lockdowns of the school, and the fencing of the property at the corner of Gordon Lane and Fair Oaks Blvd.

Following is a summary of the primary points of the meeting:

1. Mrs. Coulter stated that there was a recent event in the stadium and the reverberation from the speakers into her home on Kipling Drive was very intrusive, especially regarding the announcer's voice. Mr. Hughes noted that he had measured the decibel level from the stadium recently and it has improved with the relocation of the speakers, but recommended that the music source be adjusted and moderated. Mr. Moulds also shared his concerns that the announcer's voice was very loud and every word could be heard in their backyard. Dean Theodule stated that the regulators for the speakers were installed last week, which should prevent any of the personnel in the press box from increasing the volume to an unacceptable level. However, he noted that a shift in wind can impact the way sound carries, and thus there may be situations in which some neighbors hear more noise than usual from the stadium. Mr. DeRoss asked if we would be hosting the same track meet that was so loud last year. Fr. McGarry indicated that we would not be hosting it this year, but in the future we might; following the neighbor complaints last year, the announcers were spoken to.
2. Fr. McGarry informed the neighbors that there will be additional security cameras and lighting added on campus, and one of the sites for these is the lower parking lot on American River Drive. Mrs. Coulter stated that on one recent evening, lights from our field were shining directly into her kitchen. Mr. Weinberger indicated that this was likely the Jesuit Junior Marauders practice, which uses portable lights in the evenings. He stated that he would contact the JJM coaches to assure that the lights were re-oriented.

3. Fr. McGarry stated that the school had looked into the possibility of purchasing the vacant Jacob Lane property next to the school in the hopes of using it for additional parking. However, the cost to do this was prohibitive. He is aware of the number of cars that park on Jacob Lane and is sensitive to the concerns of the neighbors about this; to that end, he issued guidelines to Jesuit employees about street parking. Mr. Lane also noted that he has been working to prevent any student parking on Oak Vista and feels he has made a good deal of progress on this. Mrs. Redmon noted that there are people who park in front of her walkway on Oak Vista, making it very inconvenient to get her groceries into her home.
4. Mr. Press made note that Jesuit had been very helpful to them earlier this year, allowing their HVAC contractor to park on Jesuit's property to lift their HVAC unit over the berm, saving a great deal of time and money for them.
5. Mrs. Press also noted how much she enjoys hearing the bands rehearse.
6. Mr. Redmon shared a story about two Jesuit students who would wait for their ride after school by sitting on their brick retaining wall each day (they had asked permission). When they graduated, they brought the Redmons a plate of homemade cookies as thanks. The Redmons said they very much appreciated the gesture and noted that they are supportive of Jesuit because it teaches young men to be thoughtful and well mannered.
7. Fr. McGarry asked the neighbors their thoughts on the installation of a cell tower on the Jesuit Campus, as the school has been approached about this possibility. The general feeling was that neighbor support would depend upon the location and the aesthetics of the tower.

With no further questions or concerns, the meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.