

## **Good Neighbor Program April 27, 2021 Meeting Notes**

Submitted by: Colleen Arrigo

Meeting held via Zoom

**Staff Members Present: Fr. John McGarry, S.J. (President), La Roddric Theodule (Assistant Principal, Dean of Students), Dr. Fadia Desmond (Assistant Principal for Instruction and Student Life), Anne Long (CFO), Elizabeth Sands (Director of Marketing and Communications), Hank Weinberger (Athletic Director)**

**Board of Trustees Members Present: Julie Nauman, Board Chair; Pete Deterding, Jim Donahue, Mitch Zak, Trustees**

**Neighbors Present: Ms. Rosie Lucchesini-Jack, Mr. Kelly Hughes and Ms. Elizabeth Hughes, Mr. Steve DeRoss, Ms. Sunny Mills, Ms. Katherine Coulter, Mr. Gaylord Moulds and Mrs. Jan Moulds, Rose Wong, Paulyne Koe, Mike Miller, Judy Kress**

**Guests: Dr. Brandee Waite, UC Davis School of Medicine; Mr. Chandler Hancock, Techline Sports Lighting, Jake Hall, Jesuit High School Student Body Vice President.**

John McGarry, S.J., welcomed our neighbors and reaffirmed Jesuit High School's commitment to be good neighbors. He then asked everyone to introduce himself or herself. Following the introductions, Jake Hall spoke to the neighbors about his gratitude to the school administration for working so hard to provide activities for the students during a very difficult year. Having the opportunity to take part in some special senior events, even though they are different from the usual celebrations because of COVID, has provided a bit of normalcy in an otherwise abnormal year.

Dr. Fadia Desmond then provided information to the neighbors about the plans to hold Baccalaureate and Graduation events on our campus for both Jesuit and St. Francis High School. The events will take place on the evenings of May 19 and 20 for St. Francis and on May 21 and 22 for Jesuit. Measures have been taken to reduce the number of guests allowed to attend, per the County Guidelines for these types of gatherings, and to minimize traffic. The lighting for the event will be the same as was used during the "Friday Night Lights" football game several years ago. The events should conclude by 9:00 p.m. each night.

Mr. Zak then began a presentation about Jesuit's plans to explore installing permanent stadium lighting and the reasons for these plans.

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

- Dr. Brandee Waite from the UC Davis School of Medicine and Medical Director of UC Davis Health Sports Medicine shared with the neighbors the health risks that Jesuit athletes, coaches, and spectators face in the stadium due to the extreme heat Sacramento experiences in the late summer and fall when football practices and games are held. Serious, even life-threatening heat-related health conditions can affect anyone, whether they are an active participant on the field or are sitting in the stands where there is no shade. Preventing these conditions by playing after sunset is the best way to mitigate health concerns.
- Mr. Chandler Hancock of Techline Sports Lighting explained their company's experience in installing lighting systems that are respectful of the surrounding neighbors and the

community in general. He provided visual representations of the scope of the lighting that they would recommend for Jesuit High School. The engineering study for Jesuit's proposed lighting indicates there will be no light "trespass" outside of the stadium.

- Ms. Julie Nauman, Board Chair, explained the process for obtaining an amendment to Jesuit's Use Permit from the County. She noted that this is a lengthy process and is likely to require Lighting, Traffic and Noise studies to be completed before any action would be taken. Carmichael and Arden also have Community Planning Advisory Councils that will review the proposed Use Permit amendment and will make recommendations to the County Planning Commission. Jesuit will comply with any and all County Land Use and Zoning requirements, including full compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act. The county will also notify the neighbors of Public Hearings, and neighbors are encouraged to take part in those.

### **Questions from attendees:**

#### **Will there be any other amendments to the Use Permit included in the application for Stadium Lighting?**

Ms. Nauman stated that Stadium Lighting is the only item to be addressed in the application.

#### **How do we get notified of the local Advisory Council meetings so we can attend?**

Ms. Nauman indicated that the Community Planning Advisory Councils meet regularly to review land use applications involving sites in their jurisdiction. The Councils are advisory bodies appointed by the Board of Supervisors, and they make recommendations to the Planning Commission or the Board of Supervisors. Council meetings are open to the public. The County will notify neighbors of any public meetings involving property within 300 feet of their residence.

#### **In the past, neighbors have asked whether the school was planning to install lights, and we were told that it wasn't planning to. What has changed?**

Mr. Zak explained that the undertaking of a project of this magnitude is years in the making, and requires significant exploration and research before it can be implemented. Even now, this is still in discussion and it will not be until all due diligence has been completed that the school will make a determination as to whether this is a viable project. Ultimately, the County and possibly the Board of Supervisors will have a large part in this decision.

#### **Night games potentially bring noise, trash, vandalism and traffic problems into the neighborhoods, which may be a bigger issue than the lights. What will the school do about this?**

Ms. Nauman stated that the County is likely to require that Jesuit complete studies on the issues of traffic and noise that would arise from the installation of permanent lighting, and would require mitigation of any of those issues found to have a significant impact on the neighborhood.

#### **What time would these games be taking place, and how many times per year would they be held? Will the stadium lighting be used for sports other than football?**

Mr. Weinberger, Jesuit's Athletic Director, stated that the JV Football games would begin at 4:30 p.m.; the Varsity games would be scheduled for 7:30 and should conclude by 10:00 p.m. There would be no more than six home games per season. The use of the stadium lighting by other team sports has not been evaluated; however, none of the other field sports at Jesuit draw the large crowds that football does.

Ms. Nauman noted that if the Use Permit is granted, the County will stipulate the terms and conditions for use of the facility.

**Final Comments:**

**Jake Hall, Student Body Vice President**

Jake thanked the neighbors for their participation and shared with them his experience of playing football under the stadium lights at Jesuit during "Friday Night Lights." He indicated it was an unforgettable highlight of his Jesuit experience. He also recalled the football games that were postponed or changed to evening competitions and relocated to schools that had stadium lighting when the heat level on Jesuit's field was too extreme for the teams to play afternoon games safely.

**Rev. John McGarry**

Fr. McGarry also thanked the neighbors for attending the meeting and assured them that the schools will be respectful and transparent in its process for a permit application for lighting. He encouraged them to let others in their neighborhood know about the next meeting on May 4 so they can get the same information about the school's plans and ask any questions they may have.