

Windham/Eastern Community Action Network  
Town/Gown  
January 10, 2007

Attendees: President Elsa Nuñez, Vice President Laura Tordenti, Vice President Dennis Hannon, Lt. Clifford Spinner, Willimantic Police Department, Chief Jeffrey Garewski, ECSU PD, Lt. Derrick McBride, ECSU PD, Kimberly Silcox, University Judicial Officer, Aaron Kupec, WILI, Kevin Hoxie, Dick Grillo, Bernard D'Auteuil

Ms. Silcox called the meeting to order and alerted the participants that Michael Nintean, Director of Building and Housing Inspection for the Town of Mansfield, CT will attend the meeting on February 8 to inform the group on how the town of Mansfield developed its landlord registration process.

Mr. Hoxie reported that the neighborhoods have been quiet. Dr. Tordenti mentioned that she had been informed that Mansfield Avenue had been rowdy but that Eastern had not received any reports from the Willimantic Police regarding whether any of the problem houses were rented to Eastern students. Lt. Spinner reported that there have been few incidents, mostly minor bar disturbances.

Mr. Hannon gave an update on the loud banging that was heard last month. Apparently it was from electrical connections. The construction worker parking issue has been addressed. Designated parking signs have been installed on Summit Street. The lights at the Admissions and Child and Family Resource buildings have been dimmed to the minimum level available. At the February meeting, Mr. Hannon and Nancy Tinker will be available to discuss the fence installation cost and feasibility for the homes behind the CFRC. The fence will be chain link and he is concerned that some of the neighbors may not be happy about the fence installation because they use some of the property that belongs to Eastern.

Mr. Grillo reported that a group of students got caught inside his fence and were recorded trying to get out. Kim Silcox will ask for video equipment to be able to view the tape at the next meeting.

Dr. Nuñez was asked about whether Eastern would be interested in taking over the Kramer School property. President Nuñez indicated that a survey was done a few years ago to evaluate asbestos in the building, and it was determined that the abatement would cost over \$7M. Eastern would love to have the land but the state said that it would not lease a building that has asbestos. President Nuñez said that Eastern is prohibited from discussing land acquisition with sellers. The seller must contact DPW and indicate they are interested in selling their property.

Dr. Nuñez told the group about the strategic planning initiative that has begun to examine where Eastern will be in 5-10 years. The plan will assess the future for academics and student support services. Shirley Mustard, a frequent participant in W/E CAN meetings, has agreed to serve on the committee. The process is anticipated to take a year to

complete. Eastern is well position to raise its standing from third tier to first tier in the rankings, while always being accessible to the citizens of Connecticut. Participants reacted positively to the President's comments and Eastern's inclusion of local property owners in the process. One neighbor recalled when the process was not as inclusive.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly Armstrong Silcox