

MCCP Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2007

The Partnership discussed recent incidents within the University-Town community.

- Mayor Elizabeth Paterson said that the Town and University are collaboratively examining traffic and pedestrian safety. Crosswalks will be made more visible in the short term, and there are goals of using innovative technologies to promote safety at pedestrian crossings.
- The group talked about the impact of the tragic event and the numerous ways it has impacted members of the community.
- Tom Szigethy said that his office is working with campus organizations to address risk-management

The group discussed the UConn Guard Dogs program and the importance of finding long-term funding for these services. Andrew Marone reported that they are servicing over 400 students per weekend.

The group discussed the need for education efforts in regard to pedestrian safety. Officer Sandy Smith suggested that the community develop a comprehensive safety campaign.

Megan Perron said that campus community standards should be universally enforced in residence halls. She has seen CAs ignore alcohol/drug violations for some students, especially friends.

- T. Szigethy said that AOD-related training of hall staff would be helpful. AOD learning modules can be incorporated into the staff training.
- Master Sgt. Linda Killarney said that the UConn Police are no longer a part of the training of CAs.
- R. Ryan McHardy said that his experience has been that there are variations among residence hall staff, but that any variation in approach is no different than what would be found in any population.

Andrew Marone said that student health service capacity on weekends may affect decisions on how an individual approaches an intoxicated individual. People may not want to send student to the hospital, even if there is medical care available.

- T. Szigethy spoke about the role of Mental Health Services and said that MHS is currently looking at how to be responsive to these issues.

R. McHardy spoke about the changes in the “party school” perception of the University. He has seen that image steadily eroding.

- T. Szigethy said those changes can be clearly seen in the Daily Campus, and the AOD Department is tracking the change in campus culture.

E. Paterson and L. Killarney said that landlords and property owners need to be involved. Alcohol policies, especially the keg policies, need to be enforced.

T. Szigethy spoke about the need for concrete data. It would be helpful to have statistics on Guard Dog ridership, etc.

- A. Marone will provide ridership data.

A. Marone spoke about USG activities. There will be 12,500 Spring Weekend bracelets distributed to resident students, 2,000 for off-campus students. The rally is on track and will be held at Jorgensen Auditorium.

- T. Szigethy offered use of the SIDNE Cart for the rally.