

Oct 13 2015

## Harriet Temps

to me, Jerry, Jerry, Patricia,  
Alain

Hi Don, I have been away for a biking trip, but while I was gone, I had a note from Jerry Barber at SUNY Poly, expressing their desire to go ahead with creating liaisons between the McKownville neighborhood and SUNY Poly. In his words:

***"I am pleased to say that SUNY Poly is receptive to and encouraged by the proposal to create liaisons. We are optimistic that communication between the liaisons will strengthen trust and understanding. As you point out, the appointment of calm and effective communicators to serve as liaisons from the McKownville Association (as well as from SUNY Poly) is essential for success.***

***As a next step, can we meet and share the names/backgrounds of our respective, proposed liaisons so that we can agree that we have effective representation? Perhaps at that time we can also set up some basic communication protocols to guide the process.***

When I met with SUNY Poly, we talked about the role of the liaisons. Below are the issues that were discussed:

1. That there would be at least two people from the McKownville neighborhood and two from SUNY Poly. The rationale for having two from each would be to insure clarity of message and that not all the burden of communication for each party would fall on just one individual.
2. The liaisons role would be to transfer information from the liaisons of one group to the liaisons of the other on a regular basis. This would allow for questions and suggestions to be transmitted back and forth to the respective entities by way of the liaisons. The neighborhood would be fully informed of changes being made at SUNY Poly that would impact the McKownville neighborhood. The McKownville neighborhood would make SUNY Poly aware of any suggestions and concerns they might have in response to changes made at SUNY Poly.
3. The relationship between the liaisons is to be protected so that communication between SUNY Poly and McKownville can remain open. The liaisons are not about conflict resolution or problem solving. They are simply about making communication easy, timely, open, and honest. Their role is solely to transfer information between the two parties involved.
4. In order to achieve success, the liaisons need to be calm and effective communicators.

Don, as you can see from Jerry Barber's quote above, they would like the next step to be to have a meeting in order to "*share the names/backgrounds of our respective, proposed liaisons so that we can agree that we have effective representation.*" At that same meeting, hopefully we could set up some structure and protocols to guide the process.

Let me know your thoughts on this and how you would like to proceed. I am in favor of giving this a strong effort and finding the "calm and effective communicators" that we need for the job.

Many thanks,

Harriet