

Development Activities Meeting Report (Version: 06/24/2020)

This report created by the Neighborhood Planner and included with staff reports to City Boards and/or Commissions.

Logistics	Stakeholders
Project Name/Address: Point Park Playhouse Fence	Groups Represented (e.g., specific organizations, residents, employees, etc. where this is evident): PDP
Parcel Number(s): 1-H-295	
ZDR Application Number: DCP-ZDR-2021-14139	
Meeting Location: via Zoom	
Date: August 11, 2022	
Meeting Start Time: 5:00 pm	
Applicant: Point Park University	Approx. Number of Attendees: 6
Boards and/or Commissions Request(s): Planning Commission approval	

How did the meeting inform the community about the development project?

Ex: Community engagement to-date, location and history of the site, demolition needs, building footprint and overall square footage, uses and activities (particularly on the ground floor), transportation needs and parking proposed, building materials, design, and other aesthetic elements of the project, community uses, amenities and programs.

Urban open space requirement from original plan. The space needs a fence due to issues with people using open space after hours and creating problems. Over 200 complaints and investigations. Proposing fence that is 6.5' tall that will be open 8am - 9pm. It will then be locked. Showed renderings to show materials and visual depiction. Signage will be included to highlight the hours it will be open to the public.

Input and Responses

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
We understand the challenges of open spaces in urban environment. Were any other programmatic options explored or deployed to try to reduce/eliminate the issues that are less permanent than a fence?	We previously installed brighter lights, signage, and security cameras. We did look at other things before the fence. We have police on campus but it almost impossible to have someone there all night long. We have had over 200 incidents. It does not seem feasible to have an officer posted there all night.
Having seen this project from day one, we initially talked about the starkness of this space. Very little activity seems to take place here. We suggested activating space with tables and chairs, plantings. That may see more care from the larger community. This is an option to give it more of an aesthetic appeal. As more people move downtown, open spaces will be very important.	We have tried some of those beautification techniques. On the terrace there is furniture. We used to have furniture on the lower level but some pieces went missing. The steps have been converted to seating benches with wood. We had planters on those and they were destroyed. We hope the new signage will encourage people to use the space during the daytime. It is currently not a welcoming space due to smell from people urinating there.

Questions and Comments from Attendees	Responses from Applicants
Is there a need for the fence being that tall? Please speak to the rationale there.	6.5' aesthetically matches and provides security. We did look at two height options (5.5' and 6.5'). The taller one looks better.

Planner completing report: Stephanie Joy Everett