

City of Hyattsville
Educational Facilities Task Force
Regular Meeting: August 19, 2021

In Attendance: Dan Muth (Educational Facilities Task Force Chairperson), Jim Chandler (Deputy City Administrator, City of Hyattsville), Sam Denes (Ward One Councilmember, City of Hyattsville), Daniel Broder (Educational Facilities Task Force Member), Daniel Peabody (Ward Four Councilmember, City of Hyattsville), Kat Schooley (Educational Facilities Task Force Member), Jake Lappi (Educational Facilities Task Force Member), Stuart Eisenberg (Educational Facilities Task Force Member), John Imahori (Educational Facilities Task Force Member).

Meeting Notes:

Dan Muth wants to use this meeting update the EFTF on the progress of the HMS build and the place of HES in the funding cycle based on his conversations with Jason Washington and Shawn Matlock as well as the busing situation in PGCPs.

Dan Broder makes motion to approve the agenda. Stuart Eisenberg seconds. Unanimous vote to approve the agenda.

Dan Muth starts the meeting by bringing the committee and attendees up to speed on timeline for the build. Early to mid-fall 2021 was the original timeline for demolition of the Hyattsville Middle School. As of August 2021, abatement for demolition for HMS has begun and the demolition team discovered that there was so much asbestos in the school that the abatement would take more than twice the amount of time originally budgeted. There is also low-level site manipulation happening in terms of the site. A permit was issued for staggered demo, which permits demolition after abatement. The gym will be the first part of the building demolished, potentially shortly after Labor Day. WSSC has signed off on the demolition and sewer and water lines have been capped, still waiting on DPIE permits for demolition.

Dan Muth wants the committee to keep tabs on site conditions for communication to our stakeholders doing the build so that community members remain happy throughout the building process and the environmental impact is minimal. Dan Broder brings up the loss of the cut through alley from 43rd Avenue through the HMS property and Dan Muth mentions that he is feeling this loss acutely, but it is an inconvenience that is probably unfixable for this project.

Dan Muth mentions that the building was promised to be a solar ready building. Jason Washington from PGCPs thinks we're coming in under budget and can get solar panels on the building with the existing budget. Dan Muth mentions that we'll probably need to draft a letter from the committee to various county stakeholders to insist on our environmental priorities, especially when it comes to the solar panels. Kat Schooley mentions this should happen sooner rather than later, to ensure proper roof engineering.

Dan Muth also mentions that Jason Washington wants to add a single button lockdown system to the new HMS. Kat Schooley mentions there are several different variations of this system for

a school lockdown. Jason Washington mentioned that the system would probably be an extra million dollars. Dan Muth asks if there are any questions. Schooley wants to know about the space-to-space movement design for security purposes and wants to see a layout for the build. The committee discussion centers around the notion that this feature would be a good addition, but shouldn't eclipse other budget priorities, especially the solar panels. Daniel Peabody asks who the participants in the budgeting process and Dan Muth mentions that these discussions are happening between the county and the private contractor, but we should try to have input in this process to the greatest extent possible.

Dan Muth mentioned that \$10,000 - \$20,000 dollars was set aside for the community to decide what they would like on the site. The committee wants to poll the community for their input on this dividend. Dan Muth mentions that we're getting a mural as part of this build, so there is no need to spend the aforementioned money on that discretionary item. Dan Muth says that he is going to construct a questionnaire for the community to gather ideas for that money.

The target for the build is to have the doors open to the school by July 2023. Dan Muth mentions that the swing space situation, along with after school activities, are causing extreme stress on the bus situation in the county, which is already short hundreds of drivers. Kids are getting to school and after-school activities late. Busing logistics for various activities is extremely complicated. Dan Muth mentions that the City of Hyattsville may have access to resources that they may be able to contribute to help students with transportation. Dan Broder mentions that the Hyattsville Call-A-Bus has a six mile range, but doesn't know about the logistics for using the bus beyond that. Dan Broder and Dan Muth mention that they do not know yet where the greatest need will be, but that resources should be directed there. Jake Lappi mentions that teachers could be incentivized with greater pay and CDL certification training. Dan Muth mentions that there may be a shortage of physical buses which could prevent that from happening and that PGCPs already sponsors CDL training for bus drivers.

Kat Schooley mentioned that the HES principal indicated that the Virtual Academy option may be halted if vaccines are available for enough children. Dan Muth turns the topic to HES and mentions how the build has been delayed for at least six years and how important it is to keep fighting for that facility, as well as how proud we should be of our advocacy on HMS. Dan Muth says that there is political opposition to the ACF on the PGCPs BOE. It is important to push back against this because the next cycle could include 8-12 new elementary schools or 3 new high schools. There is committee discussion about the concerns of existing sites for new P3 schools, but there may be land acquisition money tied into Phase 2 of the ACF. John Imahori asks if there might be space for land acquisition comments at PGCPs board meetings. Dan Muth says that we should focus on getting into Phase 2 first. Dan Broder asks if we should ask people to comment at the September 9, 2021 PGCPs BOE meeting. Dan Muth says yes.

Dan Muth mentions that voting on specific asks for the HMS build and HES for Phase 2 ECF might be voted on at the next EFTF meeting. Dan Broder makes a motion that we should draft a letter to the City Council encouraging them to write the County to make sure the HES is in the

Phase 2 of the ACF. Kat Schooley seconds. Vote is unanimous approval. Daniel Peabody and Sam Denes agree to carry the motion at the City Council level.

Dan Broder motions that a community questionnaire be an action item coming out of the meeting. Dan Muth seconds and the vote is unanimous approval. Dan Broder agrees to work on the questionnaire and send it around for review.