

EFTF 3/19/26

Attendees:

Amy Parker

Kat Schooley

Dan Broder

Maraya Burks

Joanne Waszczak

Hal Metzler

Minutes:

- Updates from PGCPs posted on their website, Dan trying to get them to speak to committee again
 - o Still excavating and digging out foundation, concrete footers being poured, garage will begin
- Dan has been going by the site to check in himself regularly
 - o Dan has only received 1 complaint about rodents ~1 year ago
 - o Trucks seem to be following traffic paths strictly and entrance seems to be closely monitored by construction staff
- Amy asked how Dan is receiving complaints and if people know how they can voice their concerns
 - o Dan has generally gotten complaints via email – hasn't recently updated HOPE listserv which is how he did it previously. Will update soon to see if there are any responses (Dan can pass on complaints or direct to PGCPs)
- Swing space
 - o School has gotten pretty creative with how they're utilizing the space, things seem to be going well
 - o Traffic management seems to be pretty smooth (based on Dan's observations driving nearby) – Amy said there are normal frustrations around parent drop off/pickup, looking forward to smoother progressions next year
- PTA and school administration communications have smoothed out – more collaboration, less tense

- PTA has been trying to get more access to the building but St. Mark's utilizes in the afternoons/evenings – is there a chance for this to improve next year? Joanne suggested elevating this to Shawn Matlock's attention
- PTA meetings have not been able to happen in the swing space due to space access limitations
- Joanne proposed asking PGCPs back to provide an update to the committee and City Council
- Are there any weather delays? Has not been communicated from PGCPs thus far. Increased updates could help relieve rumors and stress about the timeline.
 - Joanne suggested developing a communications plan to make sure public is up to date.

What would we highlight as the accomplishments of our committee over the last year or so?

- Providing a platform for PGCPs to come and give regular updates
- Advocacy work has died down since the buildings are projects either completed or in progress – potential to pick back up again in the future?
 - Nicholas Orem is next on the capital projects list
- Maintaining awareness of current activities in swing space

What do we see as the future work of the committee?

- Consider needs of other schools in Hyattsville – communicate needs to help allocate resources for those needs to be met
- Post-occupancy survey? What is that? What does that look like? Could be helpful information just for public government stakeholders and us as a committee.
 - How are gender neutral toilets working out?
 - Complaints from Oliver neighbors about excess trash
 - HVAC noise issues – how did that get mitigated?
 - Field use? How is that going?
 - Ask Pam for insight on whether PGCPs is already doing this? How the principal is feeling about the space? Can PGCPs leverage this info or help execute the survey?

How is this committee's work distinct from the work of the Educational Advisory Committee?

- Educational Advisory Committee (EAC) looks at supports PTAs, teachers, students – they have grants programs that can be used for projects, etc. They can help beyond PGCPs schools; independent charter schools, etc.

- Biggest difference are the action items – EAC distributes grants, go to principal’s meetings, cover micro-level topics within schools and looking at how the community can support at that level. EFTF focuses more on advocacy and mobilizing city officials/residents to advocate for community and community schools. EAC has a broader approach that is micro focused, EFTF has a narrower approach that is more macro focused.
- City is asking these types of questions across committees to try and make sure approach is efficient.
 - o Interested in relieving the burden of the amount of time staff is having to spend attending evening meetings (only a certain number of staff are assigned to committees)

Next meeting:

Amy to compare/contrast EAC and EFTF

Kat to bring example of post-occupancy survey.