

City of Hyattsville Educational Facilities Task Force
Thursday, July 16th, 2020, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
Conducted Online
Open to the Public

You are invited to a Zoom webinar.

When: Jul 16, 2020 07:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Topic: Educational Facilities Task Force Meeting

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ACFBcm0-Q2K-z0IkIAAW_w

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

AGENDA

1. Welcome.
2. Approval of 2/20 meeting minutes.
3. Presentation and discussion of initial Middle School Plans.
4. Discussion of swing space options for Middle School build.
5. Discussion of facility appropriateness for fall re-opening given COVID realities.
6. Brainstorm further EFTF activities in other Hyattsville Schools
7. Follow up on changes in EFTF membership
8. Adjournment.

02/20/2020 Educational Facilities Task Force Meeting Minutes

In Attendance: Daniel Muth, Daniel Broder, Bart Lawrence (Ward 1 City Council Member), Tracey Nicholson Douglas (City Administrator), Kat Schooley, Patrick Paschall, Colleen Martucci, Stuart Eisenberg.

Dan Muth entertains a motion to approve the (need date) meeting minutes. Eisenberg makes amendment to correct the date. Schooley offers motion as amended. Seconded and passed unanimously.

Muth wants to circle back to the Hyattsville Middle School Project Planning Kick Off Meeting in November 2019. Brings up subject of “New Capital Strategy.” Broder brings up P3 funding model and asks if it is being envisioned as a temporary solution to an overcrowding crisis or a long-term financing strategy for the PG County School system. Muth indicates that at the moment it is being utilized as a short-term fix and notes that the problems in other P3 models had genesis in the division of responsibilities. These fixes were somewhat addressed in the contract language with the PGCPs P3 model.

Eisenberg asks if the P3 model is tied into state legislation related to the restoration of regular funding to the schools. Muth indicates that there is a push at the state level for these funds to move forward. Even if the state legislation goes through, the timeline for Hyattsville Elementary School would not move up, but would probably be more solidified in terms of timeline. Eisenberg also raises concerns about P3 companies abdicating responsibilities if they don’t exist in the payout timeline. Broder follows up by asking about company capabilities related to project execution including project experience of the contractor. Martucci indicates that she would strongly suggest that any company working under a P3 contract be bonded. Eisenberg wants to see a structured deal with a loaded back-end payout so that the company is incentivized to take care of the school. Martucci wants to know if the Maryland Department of General Services is involved in the process at all. Broder wants to know about any type of oversight mechanism for legal recourse if things go of course.

Muth indicates that likely by June proposals will be in the hands of the EFTF to review. PGCPs wants to have occupancy by Fall 2023. Schooley indicates that the timeline is in line with her professional experience with building middle schools. Paschall raises question about whether EFTF needs to present to City Council at some point in the next few months per the committee’s charter. Also notes that there is an upcoming meeting about Kirwan Commission recommendations on February 26, 2020 at Hyattsville Elementary School.

Muth indicates that the design is based on Glenridge Middle School. During the timeline rollout, Eisenberg wants to schedule multiple hearings for the community to involve them in the discussion. Muth wants to do that once we have a better timeline, indicates we'll do so as a committee. Schooley talked about the Glenridge design process, indicates that the learning spaces inside the middle school are both possible and could be consistent with PGCPs' vision for future learning. Muth pivots to a discussion about visioning for the school design and how we as a committee can have input into the process. Muth wants to know why visual arts in the (name) document is segregated and asks Schooley to confirm if the publicly accessible spaces are near parking and academic spaces are. Schooley indicates that the design is an ideal, but not necessarily applicable to the realities that spaces in PG County will allow. Muth wants to know about HMS site limitations. Schooley indicates a shared belief that swing space will have to be used unless the building plans for the school are dramatic and unique to HMS. Muth wants to know if going forward without swing space would affect the end product. Schooley indicates that it likely would and could negatively affect design.

Broder wants to know how the committee should approach the swing space issue with the county. Schooley and Eisenberg both indicate that the build would go far easier with kids in a swing space. Muth wants to entertain a discussion about potential swing space. Broder suggests shift times with swing space at Northwestern High School. Muth indicates that the question should be posed to Pamela Boozer-Strother. Eisenberg wants to ask the groups which put out the RFP about swing space considerations, group wants to hear about CIP and developers' interactions. Muth indicates that he will follow up with PGCPs stakeholders this week.

Lawrence wants to know what effects will be felt in the neighborhood and with traffic during the construction phase. Schooley indicates from her experience that she believes that staging and construction transit would be the most disruptive part of the construction process in terms of traffic. The committee wants to find the best balance of design elements vs. accommodating swing space people. Eisenberg wants to obtain maps for committee use so that construction staging can be simulated. Martucci wants to see a bigger emphasis on fire safety in the building criteria. Muth and Schooley indicate that gender neutral bathrooms will very likely be a feature of the new middle school building. Committee reviewed different specifications as written out in the Middle School Educational Specifications.

Muth compiled all of the aforementioned concerns into a document and will send along the questions to the appropriate parties. Muth entertained a motion to adjourn. Eisenberg offered the motion, Broder seconded. Unanimous vote to adjourn.