

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: June 14, 2022 8:30 am at Early Learning Center – East, 280 Gaines School Road.

Attendees: Alex Sams Rick Parker Nancy Hart Linda Davis Niki Jones
Smith Wilson Mike Waldrip Erwin Greene Garrick Askew John Gilbreath
Troy Basset Gerald Arscott

Staff Reports: Copies of the following were distributed prior to the meeting:

- May, 2022 Meeting Summary
- June, 2022 SPLOST Monthly Report
- June, 2022 SPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- June, 2022 Construction Schedule
- April, 2022 SPLOST 5 Financials
- April, 2022 SPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- April, 2022 SPLOST 5 Revenue Monthly Trend

Dexter Fisher: The fact that the previous meeting was the last one for Dexter Fisher, before his retirement, had been missed. Appreciation was expressed for Dexter’s contribution to the COC and the School District. Alex Sams will contact Dexter to express that appreciation.

West Broad Campus: A special called Board Meeting on May 12 discussed options and priorities for West Broad. Dr. Thomas will now be further reviewing the options for that campus with the aim of retaining as many of the buildings as is practicable.

Early Learning at Old Gaines: Eight classrooms (64 students) are now occupied. A further eight will be completed by mid-July and be ready for occupation at the start of the new school year. There is a delay, until November, for the canopies. There are problems with the earth shelter roof leaking. It is difficult to determine where the leak is occurring. This will be further examined to decide what action to take.

Board HQ: Modification work is currently being to the stage in the Vernon Payne Meeting Room to provide more space. Discussions are being held to determine the process for selling the two houses. Fencing will be installed and one water meter needs to be moved. Zoning is also an issue to be resolved. The whole campus, including the houses, is zoned institutional. The house on Hill Street is likely to be zoned residential and the one on Prince Avenue, commercial.

Clarke Middle School: Construction documents are now being prepared with the aim of being ready by the end of the year. It is anticipated that bids will then be invited in January 2023. Current indications are that building costs may be around \$225 - \$250 per square foot. Site approval has been received from the DOE. An issue concerning drainage has been raised in connection with the cemetery, and discussions are planned with Ms. Rhodes, the cemetery representative. Ms. Rhodes will also be invited to future LBC meetings; the next one is being planned for August. Discussions are planned with the Fire Marshall concerning the requirements for the modular buildings.

School C/Easom: No change. Student numbers continue to be monitored, along with new housing developments. Any growth in the School C area can be accommodated by use of the Whitehead Annex classrooms, vacated by HQ staff who moved to Prince Avenue. There was recognition that if/when School C is built there will need to be re-zoning. Easom was intended for the Old Gaines site.

Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse: The Board approved a construction contract with Grahl Construction. In the sum of \$5.54m. Work has commenced. Concern was expressed that the ground breaking ceremony was entirely a male event, with football dominating, which gave a poor impression and excluded females. Garrick Askew will raise this with the District's PR Team. Niki Jones reported that a traffic study will be undertaken when school resumes to determine if any action needs to be taken regarding the traffic lights when exiting the school to Cedar Shoals Drive

Early Learning Center Kitchen Extension: The work is complete and this item will now be removed from the agenda.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: Discussions have continued with Career Academy staff to determine their requirements. The architect/kitchen planner will now produce schematics for further discussion. The expectation is to bid the work by the end of the year, so that items/equipment that may have a long lead time can be ordered, and be ready for installation when the work commences in May, 2023

Clarke Central Softball Storage: Work has begun with concrete footings being prepared.

Facilities Review: Issues have been found with the Clarke Central main building roof, which is leaking and where the parapet brickwork is cracked. Exploration are taking place to determine what remedial works are required.

Transportation & Technology: Buses and staff computers are on order. The computers are replaced on a five year cycle and this time are funded by the remaining technology ESPLOST 5 funds (\$777k) and the remainder from ESPLOST 6.

COC Membership: Greg Davis has retired from the BOE but has asked if he could remain as a member of the COC. It was agreed that he should complete the application form and Alex Sams will contact him about that. Committee.

ESPLOST 6: The bond proceeds have been received.

Sales Tax Revenue: The April collection was \$2.77m.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

July 12, 2022

August 9, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.