

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

Meeting Date: November 10, 2022 8:30 am in Room 136, BOE HQ, 595 Prince Avenue.

Attendees: Alex Sams Andrew Malec Tad MacMillan Rick Parke
Nancy Hart Greg Davis Lear Rhodes Patricia Yager
Niki Jones Robbie Hooker John Gilbreath Troy Basset
Gerald Arscott

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

- October, 2022 Meeting Summary
- November, 2022 ESPLOST Monthly Report
- November, 2022 ESPLOST Contingency/Change Order Report
- November, 2022 ESPLOST Construction Schedule
- September, 2022 ESPLOST 5 Financials
- September, 2022 ESPLOST 5 Budget Projections
- September, 2022 ESPLOST 6 Financials
- September, 2022 ESPLOST 6 Budget Projections

West Broad Campus: The Superintendent has had a recent meeting with ACC representatives exploring potential uses for the Buildings and site.

Early Learning at Old Gaines: Playground installation is almost complete: pour-and-play is being installed then a fence has to be completed and some sod laid. Footings for the canopies will be set during the Thanksgiving week and then the canopies will be installed over the Christmas break.

Board HQ: The ACC decision on re-zoning the houses on Prince Avenue and Hill Street is awaited. The application is consistent with the land use plan so no problem is anticipated. Work needs to be done on altering some utilities, to make them separate for each house, and fences need to be installed. The houses will then be ready for sale. The plan is for the proceeds to go to creating a new parent information center (PIC) in place of Ellard Hall. The Superintendent said that he had looked at all three houses and agrees with the proposed plan to sell them. The COC emphasized the need for effective communication with the community concerning the plans, especially the disposal of Ellard Hall and information demonstrating why its use as the PIC is not viable.

Clarke Middle School: Three contractors have been pre-qualified and bids are due the first week in December. The outcome will be reported to the December BOE. The DOE has approved the plans and, following some clarification concerning stormwater, ACC will issue the building permit. The Alps Road Principal has been briefed on the project and also attended the recent Local Building Committee (LBC). Representatives from the library were also at the LBC. They stressed that there is no access to the library from the back of the building and students must use the front entrance. There was a good attendance at the LBC. There was further discussion on the question of an externally accessible restroom for those using the fields. Discussion with the school and those who would be responsible for its maintenance (Plant Services & Custodial Departments) indicated concern about it on the basis of misuse, vandalism etc. During programmed activities, whether by the school or an external group, facilities would be available. It was noted that there would be internal security so that, for example, a group renting the cafeteria would not have access to the main classroom areas.

School C/Easom: The October student numbers from the DOE indicate a further slight drop in numbers.

Cedar Shoals Fieldhouse: Work is progressing and time is being recovered after supply delays affecting the steel. Pictures of the work in progress were shown. It was confirmed that gender equality has been fully considered in the design and allocation of space.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: Discussions have been held with the Career Academy concerning space to be used while the kitchen area is out of use. A food serving permit is being sought. Bids for the work will be invited shortly so that a contract can be let early to enable equipment and materials that may have long lead times can be ordered. The schedule is for work to commence in May, 2023 and be completed by December, 2023.

Facilities Review: Plant Services have updated the BOE on (non-ESPLOST) priority maintenance required.

Transportation & Technology: Staff computers have been received. This is the five year renewal program funded by remaining ESPLOST 5 Technology funds (\$777k) and \$2.688m from ESPLOST 6. The Transportation Department is having some issues obtaining quotations for buses due to supply chain issues. When they have the required information they will BOE approval for the next round of bus purchases, which would normally be delivered in summer 2023.

COC Membership: – Alex Sams encouraged members to seek out candidates to join the Committee.

Sales Tax Revenue: The September collection was \$3m. This was the highest monthly collection ever.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

December 13, 2022

January 10, 2023

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.