

ESPLOST COMMUNITY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE – MEETING SUMMARY

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

Attendees: Alex Sams Rick Parker Nancy Hart Andrew Malec Patricia Yager
Linda Davis Allison Wright Niki Jones Xernona Thomas Dexter Fisher
Garrick Askew John Gilbreath Troy Basset Gerald Arscott

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

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

West Broad Campus – Dr. Thomas announced that there would be a special called Board Meeting on May 12 at 5:30pm for the Board to discuss options and priorities for West Broad. The meeting will be open and live streamed. Gerald Arscott will circulate this information so that other COC members would be aware.

Early Learning at Old Gaines – Staff and students moved in on May 2, occupying eight classrooms (64 students). Some elements of work remain to be completed, then a further eight classrooms will be occupied at the start of the new school year. The COC congratulated staff on handling the quick turnaround required by the decision to use Old Gaines and the accomplishment of the work.

Board HQ: A ribbon cutting ceremony took place on April 28. The former chapel was named as The Vernon Payne Meeting Hall. Close-out documents have now been completed and training on the building systems has been provided to Plant Services staff. The survey required to sub-divide parcels, to enable sale of the two houses, has taken place and some discussion is needed to clarify detail. The whole campus, including the houses, is zoned institutional and the proposal is for the houses to be re-zoned prior to sale. The house on Hill Street is likely to be zoned residential and the one on Prince Avenue, commercial.

Clarke Middle School: Following the recent Local Building Committee (LBC) meeting the architect is adjusting the site plans. The BOE on May 12 is being asked to approve the site plan for submission to the DOE. Consideration is being given to whether the contract for works should be CM at risk or hard bid. Linda Davis asked if the area adjacent to the cemetery could be created as public space. She will supply the name of a cemetery representative to attend the next LBC. The civil engineer/architect are working on plans for the external space for presentation to the next LBC, which is likely to be after the summer break. The BOE on May 12 is also being asked to approve trailers to be used temporarily as a health center. This not an ESPLOST expenditure but arrangements have to be made to locate it in an area which does not affect the construction work. The operating costs of the center are being funded by a grant that UGA has received.

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: Construction bids were received ranging from \$5.5m to \$6.8m. The Board is being recommended to approve a contract with Grahl Construction. Preliminary action is being taken now to ensure a prompt start with the aim of completion in spring 2023. Some items are on a 30 week supply timeline, so these need to be ordered promptly. A ground-breaking ceremony is planned for May 18 at 5:30pm. Details will be sent to the COC.

Early Learning Center Kitchen Extension: The electrical panel, which has been long delayed, has now been received and installed. Final inspection by the county is taking place and the facility will then be operational.

HT Edwards Culinary Kitchen: The architect has a kitchen consultant who will be involved with the project. There will be meetings over the summer to determine exactly what is to be done and this will include liaison with the heritage committee. The plan is for the work to be done in summer 2023, but for any of the required equipment etc. which is on a long lead time to be ordered as soon as possible to avoid delay with the work. There was concern that the absence of a Career Academy CEO has led to some messaging issues, with some thinking that the work would be done this summer. The Career Academy is also wanting to develop hospitality and marketing programs, which would be adjacent to the culinary kitchen and also a nursing suite. It was suggested that a Local Building Committee could be an avenue to pull the interested parties together.

Facilities Review: Life safety systems are being monitored with Plant Services to identify anything requiring replacement from the Systems Renewal funds in ESPLOST 5. Currently the JJ Harris fire alarm system is being replaced due to being unreliable and parts no longer being available. The softball facility at Clarke Central is being upgraded this summer. It was emphasized that this will be for equipment storage, not a locker room, and will be comparable to the boys facility.

Transportation & Technology: Five buses (ESPLOST contribution \$500k) are on order for anticipated delivery in June. The provision for buses in ESPLOST 6 is \$1m per year, which will pay for approximately 9-10 buses, depending upon type/size. Technology have obtained BOE approval for the replacement of staff computers using the balance of the technology ESPLOST 5 funds (\$777k) and the remainder from ESPLOST 6. Garrick Askew will seek the answer to a question that was raised concerning the consequences of a student no returning a device.

COC Membership: Alex Sams encouraged a renewed effort to seek out candidates to join the Committee.

ESPLOST 6: The bond sale was successful and the final steps are being completed, then the proceeds will be passed to the District.

Sales Tax Revenue: The March collection was \$2.8m.

Future Meetings

Future meetings are scheduled for:

June 14, 2022

July 12, 2022

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 am.