



MEETING MINUTES

DATE: 11/23/2015 6:00PM

LOCATION: MURCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

PROJECT: MURCH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL SIT MEETING

TOPIC: SWING SPACE

ATTENDEES: PATRICK RAMSEY (DCPS)
MICHAEL QUADRINO (DGS)
SARAH HASSELMAN (DGS)
RONNIE MCGHEE (RMc)
MUDDATHIR IBNOUF (RMc)
SHAYNE PINTUR (HCM)
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT TEAM (See attached sign in sheet)
PRINCIPAL CHRIS CEBRZYNSKI (DCPS)

1. DGS and DCPS presented an overview of the exploratory process for swing space and phased swing space options; Multiple sites were analyzed and discussed as untenable and/or unfeasible;
2. Presentation began with a review of the criteria used by DGS in evaluating the suggested sites;
3. SIT member also asked about assistance with the school wide mouse problem;
4. 11 Suggested sites were briefly summarized and reasons for their unsuitability were discussed:
 - a. Numerous sites were not interested
 - b. Intelsat would require significant remodeling and leasing fees over 2 years
 - c. Howard Law campus had 1 building available but was in extreme disrepair
 - d. Fannie Mae campus would not have vacancy until 2017
5. Walgreens building was suggested by some SIT members as an option, DGS/DCPS will investigate; later comments also described this site as unfeasible;
6. **SH (DGS) presented Option 1**, swing space entirely on Murch Site:
 - a. Phase 1 includes southern existing building + addition
 - b. Cost valued at approximately \$4 million
 - c. SIT recommended 2 story modular be used to maintain open space on the site, DGS noted that they would likely be cost prohibitive.
 - d. Site Utilities were discussed in the context of this option. New configuration of building will be served primarily from the south and east, so no conflict with temporary facilities. Temporary facilities will likely have overhead power and some trenching for sanitary/water; work area to be determined;
 - e. Impact of this scheme to programmed play periods was discussed. Principal C indicated that Option 1 would likely involve 1 grade per recess period on the site.
 - f. NPS land across Reno Rd was discussed. DGS/DCPS to investigate in more detail facilitating play areas on that site;
 - g. Concerns were raised regarding the proximity of the trailers to the work site, morning and evening traffic concerns and learning impact of the construction discussed; low amount of play areas on site discussed;
 - h. SIT asked to consider moving one or more of the trailers further away from construction zone, possibly to the front of the school.
 - i. Earthworks, Pile driving and Geological survey results were discussed. Majority of earthworks, excavations would take place in the first summer in this scheme, as would any pile driving for sheeting and shoring. Piles are not anticipated for the foundations of the permanent structures.

- j. Possibility of closing Ellicott Street (partial or full closing) during construction was raised as an item that DGS/DCPS will be investigating.
 - k. Questions regarding possibility of completing one wing in a summer was asked: RMc Hearst wing was completed in one summer with utilities started early;
7. **Option 2** partial use of the Capitol Memorial Church was presented, partial split of school utilizing off site resources:
- a. Concern raised by ANC that the temporary facilities may impact a recently completed playground in the potential offsite location
 - b. Church was noted as possessing a medium sized kitchen, which may impact the need for a temp cafeteria unit.
 - c. SIT indicated they did not feel like the equipment on the site was age-appropriate.
 - d. Classrooms in church would have shared use with Sunday school programs, which will impact what materials can be left over weekends. Would need to be negotiated with the church.
 - e. Concerns were raised regarding the proximity of the trailers to the work site, morning and evening traffic concerns and learning impact of the construction discussed; low amount of play areas on site discussed;
 - f. Recommendation for a 2 story modular unit was reiterated by the SIT, would make any option more efficient.
 - g. How will morning line-up be accomplished in either scheme?
 - h. SIT suggested that modular facilities at Hearst, Lafayette, or Diehl be used. DGS/DCPS will evaluate.
 - i. SIT reiterated that other school facilities and communities should not be sheltered from inconvenience at the expense of the Murch project.
 - j. Question was asked about moving trailers to the front to protect kids from construction activities; GC will have to be consulted about final site logistics;
 - k. DGS noted the need to set-up for school during the week and remove school paraphernalia on Friday at the church classrooms;
 - l. Questions regarding possibility addition of a second nurse was asked: DCPS to investigate this;
8. **Option 3** was presented, partial split using UDC facilities
- a. UDC indicated a willingness to work with DCPS, very preliminary discussions had taken place, more investigations to follow the week after Thanksgiving.
 - b. UDC Space was noted by DGS/DCPS as non-contiguous
 - c. The field at UDC was noted by the SIT as having previously used for temporary structures during the construction of the Chinese Embassy, could potentially gain benefit of existing utilities.
9. 12/17/2015 was noted as the tentative date for next Community meeting. SIT recommended an earlier date to avoid appearance of a pre-holiday information dump. Coordination with Murch Basketball game schedule required.

GENERAL COMMENTS BY COMMUNITY:

- 1. Stoddert soccer does not use the UDC field; DCPS/DGS to investigate the use of Mullenburg Park for recreation space;
- 2. Either Lafayette or Deal trailers usable for Murch Swing Time frame? DCPS/DGS to investigate;
- 3. School function/logistical controls management plan needed for any accepted scheme;
- 4. Additional costs of double decker trailers and swing space worth the cost to the parents;
- 5. This swing space item has been delayed for no valid reason.
- 6. There is not enough time to come with a decision on which option in two weeks' time, which may force parents to make a quick decision between keeping kids at school and going to another school.
- 7. The money required for double deck trailers is supposed to be provided by DCPS which is a valid request by the community compared to other schools bigger budgets.

8. A more detailed and researched scenario for each option is required for the community to decide validity of either.
9. DGS should solidify control /use/requirements for the Reno park area across Reno Road.
10. DGS/DCPS needs to provide significantly greater specificity at the public meeting scheduled for December 17;

SPLIT OPTION AT UDC

COMMENTS BY COMMUNITY

1. The split option is a burden on the school administration to run the school in two different locations.
2. The principal stated that it is his obligation to make it work if the option is split classes.
3. Split option is an issue to parents with more kids.
4. Less accommodation of school activities.
5. The mix of school students and college students is an issue.
6. UDC has good resources for Murch students to use.
7. It is safe for the kids to be away from the construction activities.

SPLIT ON-SITE WITH CHURCH OPTION

COMMENTS BY COMMUNITY

1. Church has good play space.
2. Church would better accommodates school activities.
3. Church is within the school community.
4. Church is cooperative and willing to accommodate some classes.
5. Church school classes would interfere with school schedule.
6. Requires additional nurse in church as well which may be an issue.

ON-SITE OPTION

COMMENTS BY COMMUNITY

1. Noise from construction activities
2. Heavy traffic issues
3. Students' safety and health.
4. Existing trees potential damage by trailers
5. Less play space less physical activities.
6. Parking problems
7. Provide double deck trailers are needed to save space for outdoor activities.
8. Layout of the trailers and the play space is required to ensure function and accommodation of school activities.
9. Digging on site for temporal utilities is an issue.
10. Cafeteria is an issue and would require extended periods to accommodate all students in shifts.

End Minutes of the November 23, 2015 SIT Meeting

Ronnie McGhee, AIA, LEED, AP
Principal
R. McGhee & Associates