AUHS Facilities Community Task Force

Meeting Minutes:

March 15, 2011 South Campus Library

Attendance: 16

Minutes recorded by Steve Bailey of Donovan Group LLC

- I. The task force co-chairs opened the meeting by leading a review of the previous meeting's work and the process of creating the group's report.
 - a) Co-chair David Newman reviewed the charge of the committee developed by the school board, including six tasks that the group was to take on.
 - b) Task force members will be available to consult and clarify aspects of the recommendation to board members. The process is not necessarily finished once the recommendation is presented to the school board.
 - c) Has the task force looked completely into other facilities that are being built in the community?
 - i. Other community facilities that may be built should be addressed within the solutions that are presented.
 - d) Mr. Newman shared a draft recommendation he came up with based on what the task force has discussed so far. This was shared as an example of what a recommendation might look like.
 - i. The report can include the fact that there was not necessarily consensus on certain details of the recommendation (Bob Vajgrt, Eppstein Uhen Architects).
 - ii. A flexible report will allow the board to make decisions, especially if there are aspects of the recommendation that not everyone on the committee agreed upon. Note that the task force is a representation of the community as a whole.
 - iii. The board will also use the minutes from the meetings to look at all of the discussions that took place.
- II. The task force broke up into several smaller groups for a solution creation exercise. Each group focused on a specific needs category and brainstormed possible solutions for each need.
- III. The task force met as a whole and discussed the recommendation process.
 - a) The recommendations should be weighted based on how members of the task force felt about certain issues. Should the recommendations be more strongly worded for those that had a great deal of support from task force members?
 - b) The solutions could then be prioritized based on what percentage of task force members agreed that specific solution.
 - i. The solutions should not be "nice to haves," but rather solid solutions based on how strongly the task force agreed.

- ii. A statement like, "The district does not have to do anything, but the task force strongly recommends that we be proactive and address these issues promptly," would be a good example.
- c) The recommendations are simply to tell the board what the task force thinks is necessary. It is up to the board to take action on the recommendations.
- IV. The task force reviewed the suggested solution conversations that occurred within each sub-group. The brainstormed solutions were as follows:

a) Educational Fine Arts

- i. Create a standalone facility centrally located on campus; this new facility would have fine arts education space, storage, traffic/parking space
- ii. Increase the need for arts, including a possible charter-type school designated for fine arts students
- iii. Add 6-8 classrooms, 4 practice/recital rooms, art project classrooms, 8 offices and a conference room
- iv. Performance space: Add a new theater, a black box theater, and an art gallery
- v. Build additional long-term storage areas for props and other equipment

b) Learning Spaces

- i. Optimize and reconfigure the current learning spaces
- ii. Create flexible learning spaces for various uses, including group learning, traditional classrooms, small groups, "pods," project-based learning)
- iii. Reallocate district office space to another facility; utilize for education space
- iv. Build a new fine arts center and reallocate current space for other educational purposes
- v. Utilize common areas for special education, other uses
- vi. Re-examine and improve the school's technology infrastructure

c) Traffic, People and Parking

- i. Conduct a flow analysis of pedestrian/vehicle flow on the entire campus; identify problem areas
- ii. Move the tennis courts to make more room for parking and flow
- iii. Implement express lanes for certain times of the day when traffic is an issue
- iv. Utilize the feeder road to create a circular flow of traffic around the buildings
- v. Construct a covered walkway for pedestrians
- vi. Create a painted pedestrian walkway
- vii. Implement a "cell phone lot" area, similar to what is found at airports
- viii. Designate a specific area for parents to pick up their children

d) Field House

- i. Create a space that's large enough for graduation ceremonies and all-school assemblies
- ii. Expand the indoor track so that the school can hold indoor track/field events

- e) Aquatic Center
 - i. Expand the current pool to a minimum of 10 lanes, which would expand its ability to host events
 - ii. Leave the current pool as-is for community use, and build an additional pool
 - iii. Demolish the current pool and build a 50m competition pool; increased capacity would mean more revenue for the school
- f) The co-chairs also emphasized that recommending that the school district does nothing with its facilities is still an option that is on the table.
- V. Mr. Newman requested assistance in putting together the final report document. Three members of the task force volunteered to help.
- VI. Next meeting dates:
 - a) Tuesday, March 29, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. South Campus Library
 - b) Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. South Campus Library