



Minutes 2012 Bond Project Advisory Team (PAT) Meeting Westbury High School

MEETING #: 005

LOCATION: Westbury High School

DATE / TIME: February 17, 2015, 4:30pm

ATTENDEES: (those marked with a check were present)

	Alsmeyer, Zak	Student
	Arceneaux, Aaron	Student
	Bravo, Miguel	Student
✓	Brooks, Frances Marie	Westbury Staff
✓	Catchings, Jason C	Westbury Principal
	Chapman, Cindy	Community Member
	Clemons, Carolyn	Westbury Staff
	Crook, Stephanie D	Westbury Staff
✓	Dusablon, Christopher J	Westbury Staff
✓	Edmondson, Becky	Community Member
	Elizondo, Omar E	Westbury Staff
	Gonzales Rojas, Maria A	Westbury Staff
	Hodge, Jaliyyah	Student
	Iko, Chinmeri	Student
	Jones, Jala	Student
	Longoria, Noelia G	Westbury Staff
	Lopez Carretero, Alicia	Westbury Staff
	Lopez, Rita M	Westbury Staff
	Moczygemba, Adriana	Student
✓	Aguirre Rubio, Martha	Student
	Miller, Bennie	Westbury Librarian

✓	Moore, Lorenzo	Student
✓	Ownby, Kathleen	Community member
	Pedroso, Jamin	Student
	Reña, Annette	Student
✓	Sanders, Jeremy	Student
✓	Thurmond, Gerald P	Westbury Staff
	Valadez, Tono	Student
	Vazquez, Cindy	Student
	Williams, Cedric	Westbury Staff
✓	Alling, Brian	HISD – Project Manager
	Bankhead, Dan	HISD – Facilities Design
	Clayton, Clay	HISD – Facilities Planning
✓	Harris, LaJuan	HISD – Facilities Planning
	Robertson, Sue	HISD - Facilities Planning
	Ty Robinson	Office of School Support
✓	Brady, Scott	Joiner Architects
✓	Joby Copley	Joiner Architects
	Shirley Harris	Student
	Ablola Soyambo	Student
	Ussery, Ollie	PTO Support, VIP



PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting was to coordinate planning phase efforts with Project Advisory Team (PAT) members.

AGENDA:

- Update the PAT on the status of the Education Specifications and Building Program documents.
- Update PAT members with recent Houston ISD Board of Trustees approval to increase funds for Westbury High School project budget.
- Discuss what to expect at the next PAT Meeting.

DISCUSSION:

1. HISD Project Manager Brian Alling thanked the Project Advisory Team (PAT) participants for their time and assistance with the project.
2. It was noted three Westbury High School students attended this February PAT meeting. There are fourteen total students currently on the Westbury HS PAT member list. The students were thanked specifically for their participation and attending the meeting and were encouraged to invite their counterparts on the PAT and invite them to attend future meetings as well.
3. Mr. Alling shared with the PAT that the Education Specifications document had been completed and submitted to the project team for final review. The next step in the project process will be a design charrette (a brain-storming design exercise) with the architects, campus leadership and several key PAT members. It is anticipated the charrette would be scheduled for mid to late March most likely.
4. Mr. Alling also shared with the PAT, the Houston ISD School Board of Trustees had approved an additional \$8,000,000 for Westbury High School during last week's February Board meeting.
 - a. The additional funds were approved for additional structural repairs to the existing Fine Arts building, the construction of athletic fields related to the 6.9 acre tract to the east of Westbury High Schools main campus and to construct a softball field and tennis courts to address current Title IX athletic issues at the campus.
 - b. The approved \$8,000,000 is not entirely for construction contracts; engineering and architect fees and other project costs would also be funded from this amount.
 - c. PAT members and Principal Catchings commented they wanted to make sure the project did not spend too much money on areas of the building which may be demolished in the future. The architect team members present for this meeting were asked to take these concerns into consideration when beginning the project design.
 - d. PAT members asked about the other remaining approximately \$3,000,000 from the original \$11,000,000 identified in the 2012 Bond Referendum for property acquisition adjacent to Westbury High School. Mr. Alling and Principal Catchings responded they were not aware of what, if any, project or campuses these remaining funds had been set aside for. Mr. Alling noted it is his understanding the \$11,000,000 fund was a Houston ISD district fund and not specifically called out for use for Westbury High School itself. Therefore, understandably with the multiple needs across the district, HISD administrators and the Board will make these decisions at a later date. For now, emphasis is on making use of the funds that were approved and begin planning how best to maximize use of the funding for Westbury High School needs.
 - e. Several PAT members asked if there were other funds originally set aside to construct a HISD sports complex there on the 6.9 acre tract of land and adjacent apartment complex property. They noted it was their understanding from 2012 Bond communications to their community this was the intent and asked for additional information regarding what happened to that funding as

they understood them. Mr. Alling stated he would inquire with Houston ISD administrators to hopefully provide some clarification on this at the next PAT meeting in March.

- f. As part of the approved \$8,000,000, a site plan graphic was shared with the PAT members which showed a preliminary draft sketch of one possible design layout for the campus. It was stated the PAT, campus staff and other HISD administrators would review and finalize this design and specific details with the architect in the near future. Other comments made were:
 - i. The nearby 6.9 acre tract is proposed to include: a relocated baseball field, four tennis courts, a small paved parking lot, a small restroom and storage building as well as some open grass area for general potential use by the campus for band, ROTC or other marching and athletic practice uses. This would also be an area which could provide spaces for use by the community when not in use by the school. Westbury HS student access to the site from the main building would be via an existing sidewalk along Gasmer Drive leading to the 6.9 acre land area.
 - ii. The restroom building proposed would most likely be a small structure with probably one or two toilet stalls for both men and women's restrooms, a sink or two in each restroom and most likely the structure would not be air-conditioned but possibly have a small heater and lockable exterior doors.
 - iii. The existing baseball field on campus is proposed to be relocated to the adjacent 6.9 acre property to make room for anticipated future campus building additions and renovations construction.
 - iv. Currently, Westbury High School does not have tennis courts or softball field for their students; this is part of their current Title IX issues. As part of the site master plan sketched solution, four tennis courts are shown for construction as well as a new softball field.
 - v. Burdine Street which runs north and south through the Westbury HS campus is an abandoned city road and now belongs to Houston ISD. As part of the master plan sketch proposed solution, the southern part of Burdine Street is proposed to be removed and filled in with dirt and grass. This will allow space for a girls' softball field to be located in that area and also address current safety concerns by restricting vehicle traffic. Of note, due to an existing easement for underground utilities along the existing street, no buildings can be built over this area. However, fencing, grass and sidewalks can be constructed.
5. Several PAT members asked about the existing portable buildings on campus. HISD has indicated their top priority scope for the project is to replace the current dining and kitchen as well as gymnasium and locker rooms. The PAT attendees indicated agreement but also commented the replacing or removing of the old portables is almost as important to them. As the project budget allows, the PAT requests the project designers plans account for classes and offices in current portable buildings and hopefully remove all portable buildings when the project is complete.
6. Also, several PAT members noted the existing Westbury High School music and fine arts classrooms need substantial renovation. Though these were noted in earlier PAT meetings as important, replacement of these spaces with new construction is not currently in the project budget given the other project priorities. However, the project team took note of this request to do what we could to improve these spaces during the design process as the budget allows.
7. Mr. Alling and Principal Catchings indicated they are working together with HISD administration to expedite construction of the softball field to provide a solution for the campus' Title IX issues and needs their girls' softball team have to practice. Though the project is still almost a year ahead of the district's original advertised schedule, the hope is to get permission from HISD administration to allow for this



early phase construction later this spring before the end of the school year. Principal Catchings noted he would also like to see other development start construction of the relocated baseball and new tennis courts this summer. Mr. Alling clarified, this has not been approved by HISD, is scope well in advance of the project schedule and there is a need to spend some time to verify nothing is built that may need to be reworked or replaced due to the overall campus renovations and additions project.

8. Mr. Alling noted the next regularly scheduled monthly PAT meeting falls during HISD's Spring Break. The PAT members, campus staff and architects noted a preference for rescheduling this for the following week on Monday at the same time. Mr. Alling committed to updating the HISD calendar and sending a calendar invitation to PAT members for the revised date.

ACTION ITEMS:

None

WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE NEXT PAT MEETING:

1. PAT members will review images from the recent HISD trip to Washington DC tour of various campuses and images of 21st Century Design. The architect team agreed to include in the next PAT presentation additional images of designs they have had constructed in the Houston area with 21st century design features as well.
2. The project schedule for the future design charrette event will be discussed.

NEXT PAT MEETING: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 at 4:30 pm; Westbury High School Library.

Please review the meeting minutes and submit any changes or corrections to the author.
After five (5) days, the minutes will be assumed to be accurate.

Sincerely,

Brian S. Alling

Project Manager

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