

# ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SCHOOL FACILITIES AND CAPITAL PROGRAMS

## MEETING AGENDA

June 13, 2016

McKinley Elementary School, Library

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|-------------|--|
| 6:30 – 7:00 | Tour – Colin Brown and Robin Hodges  |
| 7:00 - 7:05 | Welcome  |
| 7:05 – 7:10 | Public Comment   |
| 7:10 - 7:10 | Approve Minutes  |
| 7:10 – 7:25 | Initial Long Range Planning Concept Design – Lisa Stengle  |
| 7:25 – 7:45 | Year End Report – Kelly King   |
| 7:45 – 7:55 | Response to SEPTA Letter – Kelly King  |
| 7:55 – 8:05 | Fillmore Arts Center – Stacy Snyder  |
| 8:05 – 8:35 | CIP Update – Kelly King/John Chadwick  |
| 8:35 - 8:50 | Committee Assignments and Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CCPTA – Don Weinstein</li><li>• Parks and Recreation – Pam Silberstein</li><li>• ACI – Bill Schimmel</li><li>• BAC &amp; Budget Workgroup</li><li>• NES at TJ, Stratford, and Wilson BLPC Updates – Greg Greeley, Jeff Turner, Miles Mason</li><li>• Project Updates – Benjamin Burgin</li></ul> |
| 8:50 - 9:00 | Wrap Up and Next Steps   |

**Thank you and have a great summer**

**Up Coming Meetings:**

- NES@Jefferson Site BLPC/PFRC: Wednesday, June 15
- School Board Meeting: Thursday, June 16, 7:30 PM
- NES@Jefferson Site BLPC: Wednesday, June 29 (tentative)
- School Board Meeting: Friday, July 1, 9:00 AM
- NES@Jefferson Site BLPC/PFRC: Wednesday, July 20 (tentative)
- School Board Meeting: Wednesday, July 20, 7:30 PM (tentative)

**Advisory Council on School Facilities and Capital Programs (FAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
June 13, 2016**

Members in attendance: Ben Burgin, John Chadwick, Gerry Collins, Laura Saul Edwards, Michael Freda, Eric Harold, Kelly King, Lois Koontz, Greg Lloyd, Steve Maguire, Miles Mason, Ron Molteni, John Peck, Bill Schimmel, Stacy Snyder, Meg Tuccillo, Jeff Turner, Don Weinstein and Lionel White.

Michael Shea (Budget Advisory Council) and Doug Taylor (Stratford BLPC) also attended the meeting.

1. Facility Tour: Principal Colin Brown and Design and Construction Manager Robin Hodges provided a tour of McKinley Elementary School. Of particular interest were the replacement for the former “pentagon” classrooms and the ongoing construction of the three-story addition. Mr. Brown complimented Facilities & Operations and the building contractor on their efforts to keep the construction from interfering with the instructional program.

2. Welcome: Kelly King opened the meeting at 7:10 in the McKinley school library.

3. Approval of Minutes: The draft May minutes were approved without discussion. Don Weinstein suggested that, consistent with past practice, the members electronically approve these June minutes this month, rather than letting the minutes linger until the Council reconvenes (with partially new membership) in September. Without objection, his suggestion was approved.

4. Public Comment: Kelly asked if there were any citizens present who wished to address the FAC. Gerry Collins noted that some community members were upset that the Children’s School would be asked to move to new quarters, as plans develop to use its space at the Reed school for other purposes. John Chadwick noted that the Children’s School provides early childhood services to the children of a limited number of APS employees.

Hearing no other response, Kelly moved to the next agenda item.

5. Initial Long Range Planning Concept Design: Lisa Stengle, APS Planning and Evaluation, asked for comments on a draft graphic being prepared for wide spread distribution that attempts to conceptualize the long range planning process in a user-friendly format. Miles Mason asked questions about the planning process. Kelly asked Lisa how FAC could help and she responded to stay tuned.

6. Year End Report: Kelly noted that the FAC’s annual report for the 2015-16 School Year had been completed and sent to the School Board. Don thanked the members for their contributions to the report and noted that this year’s

process, while not providing the opportunity to, as a group, review evolving drafts, was consistent with FOIA guidelines that prohibit the FAC from debating issues via email.

Kelly said that she would be briefing the School Board on the report on 16 June, and welcomed member's suggestions on what she should focus on. Many of the comments from FAC members centered on the challenge of drawing new boundaries in the coming years, as new schools (such as Stratford Middle) come on line. Kelly also asked Don and Miles if they would review her draft slides prior to the 16<sup>th</sup>.

7. Response to SEPTA Letter: Kelly reminded the members that at our last meeting SEPTA liaison George Buzby read a letter from that group asking the FAC for support. Specifically, with regard to the new elementary school planned for the Jefferson site, they "requested that parents be consulted about interior designs on building construction plans as the planning is being done, when such parental/community input can still be incorporated into what is eventually built." In the absence of a SEPTA representative (George was unable to attend this evening, and apparently no other SEPTA member was able to attend in his place), Kelly led a discussion of the request, beginning by asking John Chadwick for his thoughts.

John explained that Facilities & Operations had learned from the situation earlier this school year, when SEPTA members misunderstood some preliminary design documents for the new Wilson school, just how important it is to communicate with the special needs community to better understand the needs of their children. He promised that his team was increasing their efforts and would be working more closely with SEPTA and special needs families. As concrete examples, SEPTA is now represented on the Wilson BLPC, and the FAC now has a liaison from SEPTA. He also noted that APS was working toward "universal designs" that function equally well for students of differing needs. Kelly noted that priorities outlined for next year include looking at Ed Specs and that special needs should be included in the overarching specifications.

8. Fillmore Arts Center: Stacy Snyder (who is a professional artist) discussed her recent visit, on behalf of the FAC, to the Fillmore Arts Center in Washington, DC. Fillmore is a dedicated arts learning center that serves five DC public schools. Students in those schools are regularly bused to Fillmore, where they learn about dance, drama, music, and the visual arts, with opportunities for hands-on experiences. Several FAC members expressed their interest in the concept, and it was agreed that the topic would be discussed in greater depth when the FAC, with its new members, reconvenes in the fall.

9. CIP Update: Continuing the discussions from the Year End Report agenda item, Kelly asked what concerns should be conveyed to the School Board. As is typical with such discussions at FAC meetings, the conversation was lengthy, thoughtful, and went in numerous directions based on each individual's thoughts. Topics discussed included the bond referendum planned for the General Election

in November, the need to redesign the CIP formulation schedule, the need for longer planning views, plans to gain additional seats at Arlington Science Focus School by expanding some partially constructed lower level spaces, and the future of Reed School. In response to a question, John provided the numbers demonstrating how APS would specifically meet the number of seats needed at each level in the next 10 years. Ron Molteni, echoing the sentiments of several other FAC members, summed up his reaction to the Capital Improvement Process as: "I'm fine with the outcome, less so with the process."

10. Committee Assignments and Reports:

- CCPTA: Don and Greg Greeley noted that the CCPTA was having its "APS 101" for new PTA officers this evening. Both Greg Greeley and Michael Shea stopped by at that session to brief the attendees.
- Parks and Recreation: No report.
- ACI: Bill Schimmel provided a brief update, noting that the ACI had developed two spreadsheets, which he offered to share with the FAC.
- BAC: As Michael Shea (Chair of the BAC) was present, he was asked to provide the update. He noted that the BAC, much like the FAC, had just completed its annual report, and had been spending much of its time discussing the CIP.
- Stratford BLPC: Jeff Turner provided a short update, noting that the user permit submission is expected in July/August.
- Wilson BLPC: Miles reported that not much was happening with the group at present.
- New Elementary at Jefferson: Greg Greeley provided a brief update that focused on the concept of providing a single-story underground parking garage at the site, on which the buildings would stand. The garage could use standard-size components to reduce costs.

11. Project Updates: Ben Burgin had distributed a written version of the project updates prior to the meeting. He added that at McKinley Elementary most of the sheathing is up on the three-story addition and there is an increased funding need that would be presented to the Board due to the construction delay; that there is an approved budget and funding for Abingdon Elementary; and that Discovery Elementary was not net-energy positive in May, probably due to the long string of rainy days.

12. Wrap Up and Farewells: The members offered thanks and rounds of applause to Kelly King, who is leaving the FAC next year to head the McKinley Elementary School PTA, and to Don Weinstein, who is completing his sixth and final year on the FAC, including four years as Recording Secretary. Kelly announced that the School Board has appointed Greg Greeley to head the FAC next year. Kelly also noted that Jeff Turner, due to other commitments, has decided not to return to the FAC in the fall.

13. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held in September, at a time and place to be announced.