

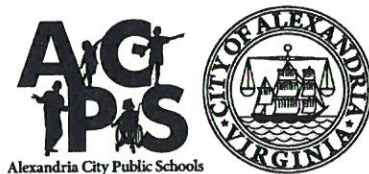


Patrick Henry Community Advisory Group

Ricardo Roberts

Wakefield-Tarleton Civic Association

Kenneth Banks	Amanda Henderson	Alissa Oram	Michael Doney
Liz Parker	Mary Biegel	Ben Fiore-Walker	Aaron Koch
Stephen Koenig	Brian McPherson	Christopher Lewis	Redella 'Del' Pepper



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November 24, 2015

Mr. Ricardo Roberts
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Alexandria VA 22304

Email: coachrroberts@hotmail.com
Phone:

Superintendent
Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D.

School Board

Chairman
Karen A. Graf

Vice Chairman
Christopher J. Lewis

Members

- Kelly C. Booz
- Ronnie Campbell
- William E. Campbell
- Patricia Ann Hennig
- Stephanie A. Kapsis
- Justin P. Keating
- Marc Williams

Dear Mr. Roberts,

In November, we were provided with a list of applicants for the Patrick Henry Community Advisory Group for which you applied.

There were very strong applications from citizens for the two community at large positions and one Foxchase position. Of those applicants, **you have been recommended for a community at large position for the Patrick Henry Community Advisory Group.** We want to thank you for applying to be a vital part of the Patrick Henry modernization process and new recreation center and are excited to work with you. Selection was made in the interest of creating a group whose interest and involvement in the project are balanced overall.


Going forward as a member of the Committee, it is expected that you will attend at least 75 percent of Community Advisory Group meetings, communicate consistently with the community you represent on the Advisory Committee and take part in the Patrick Henry Community Meetings. Additionally, you may be provided with reading materials between Community Advisory Group meetings.


In the unfortunate circumstance that you are unable to serve for the duration of the Committee's work, we will select another member from the remaining pool of applicants to serve on your behalf. Please review the proposed meeting schedule and Policies BCE and KC, which outline Advisory Committee participation and responsibilities. If you can fulfill the commitment being asked of Advisory Group members, please sign the commitment letter.

We invite you to attend the first Patrick Henry Advisory Group briefing on December 9, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at Patrick Henry Elementary School and then stay for the full Patrick Henry Community Meeting at 6:30 p.m. You will be given a packet of documents to read before the first Patrick Henry Advisory Group meeting in January. We are aware that once this process starts it will move very rapidly. All meetings are open to the public.

Thank you again for serving and we look forward to your continued input around the new Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center.

Sincerely,


Alvin L. Crawley,
Superintendent of Schools


Mark B. Jinks,
City Manager

Date: August 27, 2015

For ACTION X

For INFORMATION X

Board Agenda: Yes X

No

FROM: Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools

TO: The Honorable Karen Graf, Chair, and Members of the Alexandria City School Board

TOPIC: Resolution to Form Community Advisory Group for Patrick Henry Prek-8 School

BACKGROUND: Alexandria City Public Schools and the City of Alexandria are engaged in a joint capital project that will result in a new Patrick Henry Pre-K thru 8 school and Recreation Center on the existing school site. The school is scheduled to open in September 2018. In keeping with our desire to fully engage school and community stakeholders in the development of the project, City Manager Mark Jinks and I are recommending the formation of a Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center Stakeholder Advisory Group.

The group would be comprised of 13 members representing the Patrick Henry PTA (2), Planning Commission(1), Park and Recreation Commission (1), Patrick Henry Recreation Center Advisory Council (1), Foxchase resident (1), Seminary Hill Association (1), Brookville-Seminary Valley Civic Association (1), Wakefield-Tarleton Civic Association (1), and citizens that live within a mile of the school (2). The City Council and the School Board shall each recommend one member to sit on the Advisory Group. Members shall be appointed for one-year term.

The role of the Advisory Group shall be to:

- 1) Attend scheduled meetings which shall be open to the public;
- 2) Work within the framework for design principles established for the school and recreation center;
- 3) Act as liaisons for neighbors and the groups they represent to provide input on issues and opportunities throughout the planning and design process for the new school and recreation center;
- 4) Bring community values, knowledge, and ideas into the planning and design process in ways that provide lasting benefit to the local community and the City of Alexandria as a whole; and
- 5) Advise staff and make a recommendation regarding the preferred design of the Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center.

Staff assistance to the Advisory Group shall be jointly managed between the City and ACPS.

Recommendation: The Superintendent recommends that the School Board approve the attached Resolution that permits the Superintendent in collaboration with the City Manager to form a stakeholder advisory group of 13 members for a term of one year or more. This advisory group would work collaboratively with the Design Review Team of staff and general Patrick Henry School community.

SCHOOL BOARD POLICY: N/A

ATTACHMENT:

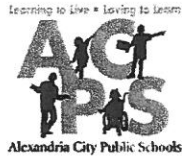
Memo from City Manager

Timeline

Resolution

Design Review Team

CONTACT: Alvin L. Crawley, Ed.D., Superintendent of Schools, 703-619-8001



December 9, 2015

Hello! And welcome to the Patrick Henry School and Recreation Center Project Community Advisory Group!

As ambassadors to the project team and the greater Patrick Henry community, your efforts will be an invaluable resource during the design and construction process of the project. The entire project team is grateful for your efforts. A summary of the Advisory Group purpose and Community Engagement process, as well as a general timeline of the project, can be found within the contents of this initial binder of project information. We will provide more information and resources for you to add into this binder as the project progresses.

As you likely know, this project has been in the early stages of development and planning for some time. The most recent development was a feasibility study process which concluded in June of 2015 with recommendations from both Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS) and Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities (RPCA) to move forward into the design phase in an effort to complete the project in the Fall of 2018 prior to the start of the 2018-2019 schoolyear. The feasibility study document and associated recommendation memos from both ACPS and RPCA are included in this binder.

This project will be a joint-effort between ACPS and RPCA to provide a state of the art educational and recreational joint-use facility which will enhance the Patrick Henry community in a number of ways. Modern design principles will be applied to ensure a facility which serves not only the unique needs of today's students and recreational users, but also the flexibility to serve the community in the years to come.

At this time, it is anticipated the educational facility will serve approximately 800 students in grades Pre-K through 8th grade. It will contain standard classrooms for each grade as well as Extended Learning Area spaces for flexible educational uses and spaces dedicated to art, music, and media. The recreational facility is anticipated as a Neighborhood Center which will focus on serving the immediate community with spaces such as a flex-court, an indoor walking/running path, and multipurpose rooms for a number of different uses. To maximize efficiency and benefits to the community, we anticipate placing spaces such as the school gymnasium and performance space adjacent to the recreational facility to promote shared use of space between ACPS and RPCA. We will provide you a detailed programmatic listing of spaces for the entire facility sometime in early January 2016.

At this time we plan to meet with you on a monthly basis at a minimum to present updated information for your input and feedback as community ambassadors. ACPS, RPCA, and the entire project team believe that no project can be successful without reflecting the desires of the community it will eventually serve. It is therefore essential we hear from you as representatives of the community to bring that information into the project design process.

Thank you again for volunteering your efforts for this exciting and important project for the Patrick Henry community. Should you have any questions or concerns while reviewing these documents, please contact ACPS Interim Director of Communications and Public Relations Helen Lloyd at phproject@acps.k12.va.us.

Sincerely,

The Patrick Henry Project Team

around it is being consciously, purposefully altered? We have not yet been told, however, how or into what the

ing to even accept the Ladies' petition. City Hall, however, is prepared to deal with the

mercial waterfront vision.

- Dino Drudi
Alexandria

New Patrick Henry needs a full auditorium

To the editor:

Alexandria is about to make a much needed multi-million dollar investment on the West End to build the new Patrick Henry K-8 School and recreation center. This cannot be just a stopgap measure to increase school capacity for our city. We must look at this, and every project our community is investing in, as an opportunity for a transformational capital investment that will draw people to Alexandria.

The community has been advocating for the inclusion of an auditorium that would be part of a shared space to be utilized by both the school and the recreation center. The current school has an auditorium that will be demolished, and designs for the new school replace it with a cafeteria with movable stage and a black box theater.

Residents have been strongly advocating for a full auditorium instead. Including a shared space auditorium could expand Alexandria's performing arts recreational offerings as well as support

the performing arts culture that is being cultivated at Patrick Henry.

It also presents a revenue generating opportunity for the city as the auditorium could be utilized by local arts groups on the evenings and weekends. Performance space is expensive and difficult to find in our area, especially places of the caliber of a proper auditorium.

A proper auditorium with permanent seating, a sloped floor for comfortable viewing and acoustics designed for the performing arts is a true commodity these days. A number of performing arts groups in Alexandria currently utilize schools in Arlington for their performances. Why not create a space where Alexandria groups can perform in the city?

The current Patrick Henry auditorium has always been a well-utilized and well-loved space at the school. It is used throughout the day for music and dance classes as well as general assemblies, and in the evenings it plays host to meet-

ings and performances.

Most of the time, the cafeteria is also in use. If you have the pleasure of attending a performance at Patrick Henry, you will see that the current auditorium is always at maximum capacity with only standing room available. And this is while currently only serving a kindergarten through fifth grade population.

What will happen if there is only a cafeteria moving forward while we simultaneously expand to eighth grade? Not only will this create space challenges during the day and evening, but it also will divide the community we are working so hard to build at Patrick Henry because school-wide events will no longer be possible.

Cafeteriums are a passing trend, but we should build a school that will serve us for generations. Including an auditorium in this project will create a center for performing arts on the West End that will benefit the entire community.

- Alissa Oram
Alexandria

Thank you it is great to speak before you tonight.

First I want to thank you for the Patrick Henry April 7th vote to only approve plans that do not have Latham Street access. This supportive vote for the neighborhood, the various local community groups showed that your representation of the community is respectful and responsible to the neighborhood, community and the city.

The new Patrick Henry school design is the most important item and it is great that we are all working together for the best solution possible.

We all knew the Architect of the project was going to have challenges. For over a year and a half we all have been talking about the school plans. Discussing the three plans the many different groups and community organizations came together to all get behind Option A. Even though Option A was not the best because of its Rec Center and parking lot beside Latham St. it seemed ok as a compromise.

Now after all the research, community work the site plan has dramatically changed to be exactly what was **NOT** desired. All trust and credibility for the Patrick Henry School design project team has been lost because of the Option A1 bus loop off of Latham St. The buses are too big for the tight residential corner, they currently have difficulty on to the narrow street, will be a student safety concern and will cause more accidents at the blind intersection of Polk and Latham streets.

Our new Mayor and several city council members have pledged support specifically for solving these Latham St issues. We all thought this issue was settled with Option A but now that has all **dramatically** been thrown away.

This new school will hopefully last as long as the current school so I urge the school board to reject this terrible Option A1 and honor your April 7th vote. Let's ask the architect to go back use their imagination to satisfy all the requirements or do we need another architect?

I know you will do the responsible and honorable decision to reject Option A1 and ask our architect to use their imagination to solve the Patrick Henry School design issues. If not the design will be a long standing monument why we should not trust any advisory council, the city's process, our school board representatives, our city council member or our new mayor. This honorable and integrity choice is yours. Please have the courage to make the honorable decision that everyone will remember reject Option A1.

Thank you.

XXXXXXXXXXXXX

But democracy does require basic bonds of trust between its citizens. It doesn't work if we think the people who disagree with us are all motivated by malice, or that our political opponents are unpatriotic.

Democracy grinds to a halt without a willingness to compromise; or when even basic facts are contested, and we listen only to those who agree with us. Our public life withers when only the most extreme voices get attention. Most of all, democracy breaks down when the average person feels their voice doesn't matter; that the system is rigged in favor of the rich or the powerful or some narrow interest.

The goal of this presentation is to provide a dedicated gymnasium and auditorium at Douglas MacArthur at Taney Ave.

It makes economical sense to simply construct a temp. gymnasium and keep the current auditorium.

Indoor gym solutions allow for a dry and protected space that is ideal for recreational activity and municipal programs. An example is ClearSpan custom designs... provides engineered trusses of the highest-quality (steel and dependable fabric covers). This combination creates a structure that ensures superior functionality and an attractive appearance. The truss design creates a wide-open building profile that doesn't require support posts. This means that the structure doesn't hinder sports or activities and each building provides the maximum amount of usable and playable space. The ClearSpan Indoor Gym Advantage includes:

- Natural ventilation – Air never gets stale or smelly
- Protection from inclement weather – Play all year
- Custom designs – Build a gym for any need
- Fast construction
- Low cost per sq. ft.
- Extremely durable – Industry-leading warranties on frames and covers

