

## **2/18/2025 Marine Multigenerational Education District Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

### Attendees:

Bill Miller - Council  
Lisa White – Planning Commission  
Kitsi Vadheim - Resident  
Dan Willenbring - MVS  
Julie McGarvie – MMFS Interim ED  
Sarah Stivland – MVS Board Chair  
Robin Brooksbank - MMFS Board Chair  
Tim Casey – Planning Commission  
Jamie Souza – School Forest Committee and Science Teacher, MVS  
Leah Mahoney – School Forest Committee, MVS  
Claire Bjork – School Forest Committee, MVS

### Not present:

Jake White – Resident  
Juliette Welp - Resident  
Charlie Anderson – Council

Jamie, Leah and Claire provided a presentation on the purpose and work of the School Forest Committee. They are hoping to return the area north of the school building to a DNR-designated 'School Forest'. The property will continue to be owned by the City of Marine, but this designation will open up potential help from the DNR and other grant opportunities. A 'Land Management Agreement' is in process between the City and MVS, once approved by the City Council, the School Forest Committee will complete their application to the DNR. The Multigenerational Education District (MGDE) Advisory Committee fully supports this effort and recommends the City Council and MVS pursue this DNR designation.

Sarah provided an update on MVS near and longer term plans. With the resignation and move of Dr. Kokx to Florida due to aging parent issues, the school has a new principal, Cari McGlynn, and is looking for a new executive director. The school will be adding 6<sup>th</sup> grade next Fall, their charter is approved for grades 7 and 8, A decision regarding future grade expansion will be needed by January, 2026. Space will be a consideration.

Robin provided an update on MMFS near and longer term plans. Julie McGarvie will begin as Interim ED in March. The collaboration between MVS and MMFS staff and administrations has been an important success factor for both organizations, with on-going communication and planning required due to space and storage issues. MMFS is focused on advancing our mission and growing our funding resources to support the mission of connecting people to folk arts and others, and supporting local artists.

### Next Steps

In the discussion about the purpose of the MGED Advisory Committee in the role of developing a Site Plan vs a Facilities Plan, it was noted that since the Committee was formed it has become more clear that both users of the property, MVS and MMFS, have grown their successes and impact on the Village. Rather than plan for 'worst case' scenarios, the Committee believes the next step is to consider the impact of expected future plans and the potential space needs of both organizations.

### Action Items

- MVS and MMFS to present a 'blue sky' outline of potential space needs in the next 2, 5 and 10 years, incorporating storage as well as classroom needs

Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 18, 2025, 6:30 at Marine School Building

### Attachments:

School Forest Presentation

Land Management MVS/City of Marine Agreement Draft

MVS Update

MMFS Update

rwb, 2/24/25