

6/10/25 Marine Multigenerational Education District Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees:

Lisa White – Planning Commission

Tim Casey – Planning Commission

Jake White - At Large

Kitsi Vadheim – At Large

Dan Willenbring – MVS

Cari McGlynn - MVS

Robin Brooksbank - MMFS

Not present:

Bill Miller – City Council

Julie McGarvie – MMFS

Discussion points

- Lisa has reached out to other neighborhood residents to see if they would be interested in serving on the Committee. Everyone recognizes the importance of having neighborhood involvement on the Committee.
- Additional questions for the survey were added (last two questions):
 1. What currently happens at the school property? (to gauge how closely people are following the use of the site)
 2. The current users of the school building and site are Marine Village School – a charter elementary school, and Marine Mill Folk School – a nonprofit arts education organization. Would you support the growth of either of these organizations?
 3. The school site is zoned for dwelling (single-use detached), public use, park/playground/open space, place of worship, school. Are there any other uses, other than the current ones, that the City should consider?
 4. Are there any issues with the current users and uses of the site that are of concern to you?
 5. What factors should the City consider if a new use were to be proposed?
 6. There are no current plans to use tax dollars for any improvements at the site. In the future, should the City and Council consider tax-funded improvements?
 7. Are there any new or additional uses for the outdoor space at the school that should be considered?
- Lisa spoke with Bill and he agreed that it would be helpful to talk to the City planner to get recommendations on a public hearing: what format, what survey questions, etc. Lisa will write a draft email for review by committee members and then send to the planner.
- Suggested date of public hearing: Thursday evening 10/2 or Saturday morning 10/4, dependent upon Village Hall availability

- Per Jake, Suzanne is pulling together ‘as built’ information and it will be available by the next committee meeting
- Per Kitsi, Fire Chief Glenn noted there are 3 cisterns on the property, he does not anticipate any issues with future building on property
- Lisa provided copies of Marine zoning regulations for the school property, including use, parking requirements, screening and lights, as these would apply if there was any new construction.
- Bill reminded us through his conversation with Lisa that the purpose of the Committee is to develop a master plan for the site, not to determine future potential costs or how potential improvements might be paid for.
- Would be helpful at public meeting to 1) remind attendees that up until 2017 the City had no say in use of school property, other than ensuring all ordinances were met, as Stillwater Schools was owner of property and building, that therefore this Committee and process is the City’s and citizens’ first opportunity to consider site usage and future, and 2) include a summary of the differences between a traditional public school district and a charter school (which is also a public school supported by tax dollars) with the particularly relevant difference that traditional schools must accept all students within their boundaries vs charter schools, which don’t have a specified boundary and can’t accept more students than their original charter, leading to a space lottery (with no special factors for neighborhood children) if more students apply than there are spots for them.

Action Items

- Jake – ask Scandia about multi-use ice rink, what allowed, how working, any issues?
- Lisa – write draft email with questions for planner, circulate then send
- Robin – ask Suzanne about potential dates Oct 2 and Oct 4, any conflicts City Newsletter for Autumn will be published in September.
- Robin – ask Suzanne if any limitations on someone renting the school yard for a public event not associated with MVS or MMFS (think current lease prevents this but not sure). Also, are there any ordinance restrictions on use of outdoor space at the school site?

Next Meeting – Thursday, July 17 at 4:45 – 6 pm at the school. Note earlier start of meeting. MMFS representatives have a conflict so neither Julie nor Robin will be present.

Then beginning in August meetings will move to the first Thursday of the month, so August meeting will be August 7, unless the August meeting is cancelled.