

DESTIN HIGH SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

November 13, 2017

GOAL: RESTRATEGIZE

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Alonso, Stone, D. Phillips, Ramswell, Williams

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 20, 2017

OLD BUSINESS

- Ramswell reach out to Jumonville re his Turnberry parcel; he said potentially discuss if necessary

MEMBER REPORTS

Ramswell

OCSD – ordinance and list of funded items

OCSD ½ cent tax plans

Triumph funding

Williams

Spoke with Jim Liufau and he questioned OCSD ordinance and how ½ cent could cover even half of what they listed; he noted they did a full cent

Suggested a lobbyist firm or informal survey such as a Survey Monkey to poll citizens on path forward

NEW BUSINESS

Game Plan:

- Stone suggested speaking with Matt Gaetz
- Problem becomes how do we get buy-in without funding, how do we get funding without presentation

In light of OCSD tax decision, ordinance wording, and negative publicity, how do we proceed?

- Committee prefers charter at this time; potential for magnet or conversion to public in future; OCSD could always hold charter if we went that route
- Must move forward now rather than sit idly

- Williams to look into individual to hold charter
- Alonso to reach out to Miami charter businessman

Partnering with a college/university (helpful for Triumph)

- Discussed partnering with college/university
- NWFSC already has a Triumph application
- UWF showed early interest in DHS but no contact since workshop; Williams to reach out
- Alonso mentioned potentially partnering or working with the military
- Suggested courses in this vein of through could include Cyber, Engineering, Communications, Languages (Arabic, Farsi, Japanese, German)
- Ramswell recalled a UF sign near Eglin and noted great potential in partnering with them for Marine/Environmental Science. Ramswell to look into this.
- Both fit into our STEAM concept

Have a Town Hall/open and advertised meeting?

- All in favor but we need to consider our call... is it to inform? Increase committee size? Fundraise?
- Group favors a town hall, but not until we have location set; had to buy in without property
- Could get paper involved to come
- Place an ad
- Have council announce/support

Two potential sites (sellers willing to work with us)

- Much interest in the BK site- perfect size particularly with additional acreage available
- Extra acreage perfect for athletic facility/football stadium
- Alonso to reach out to his potential football stadium donor

It was noted that DUMC had considered converting to a school earlier this year and committee member Bouillon had shown the charter school businessman around DUMC. That idea apparently collapsed. Williams is going to reach out to Keith Howard about that possibility.

The property adjoins the old Lively Theater which belongs to Shanri (OTP). They might be willing to part out the Theater for a school use.

Donors for down payment and more?

- Tabled til next meeting

ACTION ITEMS:

- Ramswell obtain Triumph application
- Ramswell to reach out to Steve McLaughlin

- Alonso to reach out to football donor
- Williams to reach out to Howard re DUMC
- Williams to reach out re charter sponsor
- Alonso to reach out to Jorge Mas Canosas (Miami charter school)
- Next Meeting December 8 - tentatively

DELAYED/REVISIT

- Ask Anderson for assistance?
- Request meeting with Superintendent to be added to their August 14 agenda
- Ramswell: contact Billy Williams at Walton County
- Ask Dewey Destin for:
 - insight into where due diligence information might be located
 - positioning ourselves to school board...
 - Partnership? Cooperative, helping one another?
 - Good news that Don Gaetz is now on the Triumph Committee. Should Ramswell reach out or is that premature?
- Fact check: Number of portables in Okaloosa County schools (118?); some at DES are 20+ years old (?)

ADJOURN