



La Academia Dolores Huerta

A Dual Language Charter Middle School

1480 N. Main Street

Las Cruces, NM 88001

Phone: 575/526-2984 Fax: 575/523-5407

JOINT SESSION GOVERNING COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Meeting Date: 04/08/2013

Meeting Location: Early College High School Cafeteria

Approval: DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER AT 6:45 PM

ROLL CALL AND ESTABLISHED QUORUM

Members Present: Robert del Plain, Bertha Silva, Norma Martinez Arrieta, John Vasquez, and Eva Telles
Members Absent: Saul Hernandez

Others Present: Octavio Casillas, Stan Rounds, Herb Torres, Karen Robles, Earl Phillips, Irene Oliver-Lewis, Mark Hartshorne, Andrew Bencomo, Representatives from J. Paul Taylor Academy, Las Montanas Charter School, City of Las Cruces, Mesilla Valley Youth Council, LCPSD School Board, Studio-D (Architect)

- **LCPS Facilities Meeting Re: Proposed LC Charter School Center**
 - Purpose: bring a rendering/concept of what might work for all organizations involved
 - Bring together on (1) site and ensure
 - No one will lose identity
 - Each school could choose to work together/collaborate but maintain identity
 - Remodeling and building of new facility
 - Schools/Organizations this will concern
 - J. Paul Taylor Academy
 - La Academia Dolores Huerta
 - Crossroads
 - Alma d'Arte
 - Court Youth Center
 - Each school involved needs to identify someone from school staff and governing council to work with LCPS Facilities in subsequent meetings
 - Project Basics
 - 4.5 acre total site location for (3) schools
 - Timeline to complete will take 18-24 months at a rate that is "doable"
 - Will need an answer by July 2013 if school will definitely participate or not
 - "Build to Suit Basis"
 - \$9M project total
 - (3) Financing options include
 - Bonded by Board of Education
 - Private Financiers
 - PSFA Lease Assistance – seed long-term

- Development of “LC Charter Center”
- La Academia Dolores Huerta
 - 11,200 sq ft – 1st floor
 - 12,150 sq ft – 2nd floor
 - 23,350 sq ft TOTAL
 - Court Yard = optional space/can move if necessary
 - Will share space with Foundation/Alma d’Arte
 - Theatre
 - Cafeteria
 - Court Yard ?

(NMA) Note: Could be potential scheduling issues with shared cafeteria and theatre

Comments/Notes from members:

- Stan Rounds: Food prep will be done at Centennial High School
 - Planning Team to determine schedule for cafeteria
- Irene Oliver Lewis: Theatre shifting as cafeteria ---gives up community venue
 - Need to re-evaluate possibility of black space to be used as shared eating area
- Maria Flores: Nice idea / more shared space would be lovely / reminds me of a very small college campus
- Others: There needs to be sprinkler systems in ALL buildings
- Stan Rounds: “Needs to financeable”
 - Shared spaces = cost containment
 - Ex: joint use as theatre services/cafeteria – and as a separate project we can build another building (down the road)
 - LCPS wants to maintain relationships with Charter Schools “because the kids are all our kids.”
 - “Perpetuity”
 - New/1st Collaborative Effort = very attractive to the State of NM
 - “Build to Suit” – financing model
 - “Not a profit maker for the District” but is “Right for the community”
 - LCPS will cover maintenance under lease agreement
- Octavio Casillas: “What is the likelihood of LADH eventually owning what we lease?”
 - Stan Rounds: After 6-10 years of leasing the facility can buy back with no additional costs/penalty for early termination
- Octavio Casillas: “Would it be possible to buy a different tract of land that would accommodate all (3) schools?”
 - Stan Rounds: No, not really in the bottle of financing.

- **Tentative Timeline**

- Architect design to LCPS by August 1, 2013
- Facility on Bond Election – February 2014
- Architect design finalized by May 2014
- Bond Available to Spend – July 2014
- Construction Begins – July 15, 2014

- LCPS will need an answer on whether “in or out” of preliminary discussions in 1 week = April 15, 2013

- Contact Karen Robles at krobles@lcps.k12.nm.us

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:45 PM

Minutes Taken By: Norma Martinez Arrieta

