MINUTES

Mary C. Jenkins Community Center Task Force

Tuesday, September 17, 2019, 7:00 PM
City Hall Administrative Conference Room

Members Present:	Maurice Jones, Chair, Council Member (arrived at 7:19 pm) Gary Daniel, Vice-Chair, Council Member Jim Fatland, City Manager Randy Lytle, Citizen Member Edith Darity, Citizen Member Karen Darity, Citizen Member Susan Threlkel, Citizen Member Nicola Karesh, Citizen Member (arrived at 7:15 pm)
Absent:	Victor Foster, Citizen Member David Lutz, Public Works Director
Staff Present:	Denise Hodsdon, Executive Assistant
Special Guests:	Jane Mathews, Mathews Architecture

A. Welcome & Call to Order

Committee Vice-Chair Gary Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

B. Invocation

Mr. Lytle offered an invocation.

C. Certification of Quorum

Quorum was certified by Executive Assistant Denise Hodsdon.

D. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Ms. Threlkel, seconded by Mr. Fatland to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Approval of Minutes from August 20, 2019 Meeting

Motion by Mr. Lytle, seconded by Ms. Karen Darity to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2019 meeting as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

F. Continued Discussion of Preliminary Design

Mr. Daniel read a letter from Doug Harris to the Task Force thanking everyone for the honor and privilege of working on this important project. He expressed admiration for the Task Force members' commitment towards making the building a reality and looks forward to walking through the completed building and celebrating the realization of a dream.

Mr. Fatland outlined a schedule for next steps in October & November. At the next meeting in October he would like to have a presentation to this group that would be a dress rehearsal in preparation of taking it to the City Council in November. City Council would see the presentation together with the proposed budget and recommendation of how to pay for it, and hopefully we would get direction from the Council to proceed with the design. When the design is done, we will get bids and go back to the Council for authorization to apply for financing.

Mr. Fatland said it is really exciting how this project is going to dovetail with Silversteen Park and bringing the trail into the Rosenwald Community and out toward the high school. He shared that the Pisgah Health Foundation asked the City to submit a grant application for the trail. The application is to complete the trail from West Main Street to the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center and Silversteen Park. At that point, we could have a lot of things dedicated at the same time...new park facilities, the MCJCC under construction as well as the trail coming through. He also reported that the County has donated a parcel on Duckworth Avenue. The old bridge that many folks used to walk across to go to work at the old tannery is located on that parcel.

Ms. Mathews gave an overview of where we are heading with the design. She said before Mr. Harris left, they spent a lot of time going over the project and identifying things that were on his list of things that either hadn't been resolved or she should look at. She is working towards the October deadline to have a more developed plan. Her team will be bringing the design into their computer program and the engineers will be working with them in the same program. It will allow them to look at some areas that Mr. Harris had some concerns about, such as the restrooms to make sure they meet code, the kitchen, and the structural systems, and to make any adjustments in order to make all those things work. Ms. Mathews said they will define space for a historical display.

They are looking at bringing in an acoustic design consultant to make sure the acoustics work. She advised if you are using a room as a multi-purpose room for things like concerts and performances and lectures, it needs to do a lot of things. She has given the consultant the plan and a list of materials that Mr. Harris had given her and asked them to vet those and give her some parameters of how that would affect. She will come back with some suggestions.

Ms. Mathews is attempting to get some clarification from Ms. Hawkins at the County Health Department to see if the kitchen would meet all the Health Department's

standards without being licensed. She has recommendations from Ms. Hawkins and she will try to layout the recommended equipment in the space allocated on the plan. Ms. Hawkins will look at the layout to see if it will actually meet the Department's standards. Ms. Mathews said it will be tight and she needs to see if she can fit the additional things they are requesting. If it is not feasible, she will make it as close as possible. Ms. Threlkel noted that bottom line it was not to be a commercial kitchen, but it was to have the potential to be a commercial kitchen, so maybe some of that doesn't happen at this point. Ms. Mathews said Ms. Hawkins advised that a non-profit can use the facility for fundraising up to two times per month, but you have to get approval from the health department.

There was discussion about officially naming the new building so that Ms. Mathews could use the logo on any graphics for presentation. Following discussion, Ms. Threlkel moved, seconded by Ms. Karesh to approve the recommendation of the Mary C. Jenkins Community Center Board to keep the name the same as it has always been. Motion carried unanimously. Ms. Threlkel will provide the logo design to be shared with Task Force members.

There was discussion about whether to leave the outside restrooms in the design. Ms. Mathews advised that doing a restroom at Silversteen Park, given the flood conditions that are potentially there would be very costly, so it is her recommendation to keep the outside restrooms at the MCJCC.

Ms. Mathews said the landscape architect has been looking at the bike path and thinks there needs to be a retaining wall because of the grade. She said that is not in the budget, so they are trying to estimate schematically how high that wall will have to be. She added that any trees currently on the site that we want to keep will need to be put on the plan.

G. Set Date for Next Meeting

Because Ms. Mathews will be away on the date of the next regularly scheduled meeting on October 15th, Mr. Fatland moved to cancel the October 15th meeting and to hold a special meeting on Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM at City Hall. The motion carried unanimously.

H. Adjourn

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 PM.

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Maurice Jones,
Council Member, Chair

Minutes Approved: October 22, 2019

X Denise Hodsdon

Denise Hodsdon,
Executive Assistant