

The CVCS Facilities Committee convened on Monday April 30, 2007

Attendees: Ruth Milner, Mary Nutt, Tracey Hamilton, Jim Shepard, Don Weinkauf, Cecilia McCord, Delilah Walsh, Pete Whiteis, Russell Wrenn, and Pat Hamilton.

Agenda:

1. Fundraising Template Ideas: Why do you send your kids to CVCS? (Pat H)
2. Communication and Meeting Dates
3. Update on Strawbale Construction Potential for E-Pod
4. Funding for E-Pod
5. Next Steps for E-Pod Funding
6. Green Modular Design for Pods B-C-D

1. Pat Hamilton opened the meeting with a 10 minute brainstorming session of ideas from parents to be captured in her fundraising documents regarding "why do we send our kids to CVCS."

2. Communication and Meeting Dates: The committee tossed around methods and needs for improved communication. Effective email, minutes to the community, and notices in the newsletter are all essential. The committee agreed to meet the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month... which means that the next meeting will be Monday May 14th at 7 pm in the CVCS Multipurpose Room.

3. Update on Strawbale Construction Potential for E-Pod: The committee heard summaries of the inquiries into the strawbale construction of the Corrales Post-Office. A CD is available to review design, construction and costs. The costs for the Corrales Post Office were ~\$100 /sq ft. The building is a similar size to the proposed E-Pod at 8800 sq ft. Overall, there are few public buildings constructed of strawbale. There are positives for uniqueness and funding opportunities and negatives with moving the design through the PSFA. There are also strawbale school buildings in Carbondale, CO, Scottsdale, AZ, and one in Maryland.

The committee agreed that the general path forward is to pursue a strawbale construction for the E-Pod. And that funding and fundraising would be couched in this context.

4. Funding for E-Pod: According to the Programming Doc, E-Pod is expected to cost 1.2 million \$. A good estimate for the group is 1.5 million\$. Several mechanisms for funding the E-Pod were discussed including Federal, State, Lease Reimbursement, Sustainable Builders Assoc.'s, and bake sales (Don supposedly makes some very good cookies. He was quoted as saying "that with extra sprinkles that building will be up in no time." ). Pat Hamilton also gave a thorough review of her activities in summarizing the funding sources.

The committee cited several other foundations which may be able to help. Additionally, there is 4.1 million \$ of funds available to the charter schools through a state legislative initiative.

5. Next Steps: The following steps were outlined for the group. Mary Nutt will provide a summary statement to the District School Board regarding our priorities for the EPod, that we are seeking 1.5M\$ for the construction of this building, and that the school is considering all options for funding including State appropriations. Don will send a paragraph describing FacComm Activities for the Newsletter. Cecilia will meet with members of the NM Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Dept to review options at the State level on the Energy-side. Don will set up meetings with both Don Tripp and Dr. Dan Lopez to discuss the initiative at the school and seek advice. Pete will follow-up on getting committee members info on State Green Building Task Force. Mary Nutt and Delilah will follow-up on the currently allocated 4.1M\$ of Charter School capital funds. Pat Hamilton will continue to pursue funding leads and develop grant template.

6. Green Modular Design for Pods B-C-D: The committee agreed to explore the use of green modular building designs for Pods B-C-D of the campus master plan. Such a plan for the classrooms and site development could entirely be paid for using our currently under-utilized lease reimbursement funds from the State. This would enable all fundraising to be directly applied to the EPod construction. The Architects who helped draft the programming document agreed in principle to explore these options with the school. To meet the goals of the programming document, such a plan would require outside architectural services and a builder open to green concepts and design features. Don took it as an action to invite Kent Beierle of EDI architects to a May meeting to help the committee see the possibilities.

The meeting adjourned by a slow diffusion to the door at 9pm.

Respectfully submitted.... Don