



## Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.  
*Powell 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy*

- Called to Order** 6:00 p.m. Called to order by President, Anita Banach. 6 members present. 1 member absent with notice (Demas).
- Pledge of Allegiance** Led by the Board
- Approved** Agenda for May 16, 2024 Special Meeting. Young moved. Antoine supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried. Agenda Approved.
- Public Comment** None
- Presentation**
- Mr. Folino and Ms. Foland gave a presentation on behalf of the GSOPS committee. They shared their vision for the Prospect property and explained why they feel greenspace is such a great idea for this property. They also shared their long-term vision which includes establishing a greenspace interest fund to continue fundraising to support greenspaces throughout the community. They gave an update on their fundraising and public engagement and shared that \$337,000 has been raised to date. They are still working on their fundraising efforts. They spoke about their fund agreement and stated that a purchase agreement is contingent on funding. They shared some alternative outcomes such as purchasing development rights on the property or a phased acquisition. They requested some information such as the cost of the property and the long-term costs involved and asked the board to consider an extension on time.
- Ms. Eichhorst asked what the plan for maintenance is and what strings may be attached to the grant opportunity. Ms Foland responded that their long-term goal is to provide support for the maintenance of the property. They would not be the fiduciary for the grant because they are not a non-profit but they would provide support for the development and implementation to whoever owns the property.
- Ms. Rice asked if they have a host and Ms. Foland responded that they have been working with the Village of Romeo and that they are willing to consider acquisition of the property.
- Mr. Antoine asked if there has been any conversation with the Village about rezoning the property and Ms. Foland responded that they have had none but will have that discussion.
- Ms. Eichhorst asked if a developer could come in and sue the Village because of the way it's zoned and Ms. Foland responded that this is where the deed restriction comes in and the creation of the purchase agreement with the assistance of the attorneys.
- Ms. Eichhorst asked if the grant money would have stipulations that it is to be used only for this property and Ms. Foland responded that the fund has not been established yet but it would be used for greenspace - not solely focused on this property.

Ms. Banach asked if the Village has taken any action and Ms. Foland responded that they have a resolution from the Village that they would consider acquisition.

Ms. Rice asked for further explanation regarding the mention of not being solely focused on this property for fundraising. Mrs. Foland stated that they are only fundraising for this property right now but in the future, they would like to be open to investing in other green spaces in the community through a special interest fund through the Community Foundation.

Ms. Banach asked if people have or have not contributed money and Ms. Foland stated that they are encouraging people to pledge and stated that she will share their funding agreement with the board.

Ms. Banach stated that they will be formulating questions and consulting with legal counsel because they are responsible to financially protect the district. They will not be making any major decisions during the closed session but may be making a decision on the extension of time as requested by their group.

## Approved

### Resolutions

- **Closed Session – Attorney Client Privilege**

Eichhorst moved. Antoine supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

6:37 p.m. into Closed Session for the purpose of attorney client privilege. Roll Call: 6 members present. Dr. Robinson was also present.

7:44 p.m. out of Closed Session. Into Open Session. Young moved. Antoine supported. Roll call: 6 members present. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

- **Amended RFP Termination Resolution 91**

Eichhorst moved. Young supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion carried.

## Adjournment

7:58 p.m. Rice moved. Young supported. 6 Ayes. 0 Nays. Motion Carried.

Approved by: Katherine Rice, Secretary \_\_\_\_\_