Meeting Minutes

The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts

MEETING NO.: 011
LOCATION: The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts
DATE / TIME: March 10, 2014, 3:30 pm
ATTENDEES: Robert Scott Allen, HSPVA Principal; David Calkins, Gensler; Kimberly Hickson, Gensler; Lester Yuen, Gensler; Robert Barrera, Jr., Rice & Gardner; LaJuan Harris, HISD- Facilities Planning; Kedrick Wright, HISD- Sr. Manager, Design; Larry Trout, HSPVA; LuAnne Carter, HSPVA Dance; Steve Hoyt, HISD Sr. PM; Alene Haehl, HSPVA Friends; Patrick Peters, Parent; David Sheard, HSPVA; Kathleen Fenninger, Community Member; Julia Nolte; Pat Bonner, HISD; Stephanie King, Parent; Eastman Landry, HSPVA; Eileen Montgomery; Jean Brackendorff, HSPVA Friends

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting was to present the development of the site plan and floor plans at each level.

AGENDA ITEMS:
- Introductions
- Gensler – Present plan update
- What to expect at the next Project Advisory Team Meeting

NOTES:
1. Dr. Scott Allen, Principal, welcomed the PAT and introduced Lester Yuen, Gensler. Mr. Yuen provided a presentation of the updated plans.
   a. Mr. Yuen stated that Gensler has been working with HSPVA and HISD defining the design. The comments from the department chairs have been received. Discussions regarding adjacencies of the spaces are continuing.
   b. The initial design included visual and acoustical connections between floor vertically rather than creating independent spaces. Mr. Yuen noted that this “vertical city” concept was inadvertently being lost as the design progressed. This has been remedied in the current proposal.
2. The site plan and ground floor plan were presented and discussed.
   a. The front door location and building address are being studied and developed.
   b. The dining commons has moved to the ground floor which provided some positive impacts including;
      i. Giving students a reason to go to the ground floor.
      ii. Multiple use of dining commons as lobby space. Students will be able to see streetscapes. The locations of emergency exit doors are being studied.
      iii. Food preparation areas and the kitchen will be closer to the loading dock. Trash disposal and deliveries will be more direct and will not require the use of an elevator.
   c. The position of the grand staircase is being studied.
      i. Cross sections of double high spaces were presented along with the grand staircase.
   d. Elevators will be provided from the lower level parking garage to the lobby area.
   e. The security vestibule has been made larger.
   f. The administration office is located on the southeast corner of the school. The question, “What is the address of the school?” has been asked. This has not been finalized. A secured vestibule is included to allow visitors to check in before being allowed into the lobby.
3. Second floor plan was presented and discussed.
   a. The mini-theater has moved to the second floor. This puts it on the same floor with the black box theater and the recital hall.
   b. The learning commons is located on the second floor, in a quiet space.
   c. The art gallery, recital hall and piano storage are also on the second floor.
4. The third floor was presented and discussed.
   a. The third floor will not have access to the main theater. Windows will be added to the east side of the building.

Customer Focused . . . Always Responsive!
b. The dance studios will have windows on the exterior wall.

5. Fourth floor plan was presented and discussed.
   a. Creative writing will be located on the fourth floor.
   b. The fourth floor will have visual access into the third floor recital area.

6. The basement floor was shown.
   a. The orchestra pit and entrance/exit ramp were highlighted.
   b. Security card key access will be required to enter the parking area as a security measure.
   c. Parking level exhaust fans and additional stairs will be added.

7. Fifth floor plan was presented and discussed. The roof terrace will be located on the fifth floor.
   a. This space could be used for “Happenings”.
   b. Visual arts and music will be located on the fifth floor.
   c. There will be an outdoor work area for metals and woodworking labs.

8. The PAT asked how student parking would be addressed.
   a. The program for this project includes one level of parking.
   b. An additional level of parking would be big budget impact.
   c. Parking agreements with neighboring parking lots are being considered and discussed.
   d. HISD Buses would provide transportation for some students; however, a shuttle from the school to the Metro bus stop may be required.
   e. Question: “Where do juniors and seniors park?” The group expressed concerns that the students could be carrying large instruments and building materials. Safety concerns were expressed.
   f. The lack of adequate student parking may become an enrollment issue.
   g. Identifying a parking location prior to being released for summer break is the goal. Discussions regarding parking are being held.

9. The location of the school store is still being studied. It may be located on the first or second floor.
10. A PAT member suggested it would be beneficial to have more student participation on the PAT.

ACTION ITEMS:
11-01 Identify parking areas for students. (HISD)
11-02 Provide faculty and student input to the design. (HSPVA Staff)

MEETING SCHEDULE:
Next PAT meeting: April 14, 2014, 3:30 p.m.
Community Meeting: March 27, 2014, 6:30 p.m.

Please review the meeting minutes and submit any changes or corrections to Robert Barrera, Jr. After five (5) days, the minutes will be assumed to be accurate.

Sincerely,

Robert Barrera, Jr.
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Attachment: