

Greer Middle College Planning Committee
MINUTES
March 13, 2008
GTC Greer Campus

Approved 4//8/08

Submitted by Donna Yarborough

Donna Yarborough called the meeting to order at 5:45 P.M. Members attending were Darryl Cowan, Fred Crawford, Julie Gianelloni, Jean Greer, Sandra Hudson, Keith Jones, Karen Kennedy, Mikelle Porter, Jill Rose, and Donna Yarborough. Terrell Tracy was absent. Jean Williams, principal, also attended.

The Minutes of the February 5, 2008 meeting were approved as written.

Old Business:

- Student Enrollment Update

Mrs. Yarborough thanked Lissa Cady for working with student applications and setting up the base we are using. Issie Wright is now processing all student applications and will be the contact person for GMC. Her number is 288-5968. GMC has 43 confirmed acceptances. Mrs. Wright will call the students who have applied, but have not yet confirmed acceptance. It is important to let the public know that we have spaces available and that we are still taking applications. Marketing ideas to increase enrollment include:

- Contact the middle school guidance counselors to see if they might identify students who would benefit from the small school environment, especially Hispanic and other minority students. Ms. Kennedy will work with Mrs. McCartney at GTCHS.
- Make sure that the students who were not chosen in the GTCHS or BMCCHS lotteries know they have another option.
- Work with GTC on spreading the word, i.e. college's marquee or website. Mr. Crawford will work with college representatives.
- Update GMC's website. Mrs. Yarborough will work with the web master.
- Develop a plan to network with churches.
- Consider putting ads in *The Greenville News* and *The Greer Citizen*.

- Facilities

1. Tuck Hanna, manager of Facilities and Construction at GTC, is working with the School District of Greenville County and both high schools to help them obtain portables to put on the Greenville Tech campuses. He gave a report on leasing portables from the School District – 5 for the Brashier Middle College, 2 for GTC Greer campus, and 8 for Greer Middle College on the Greer campus. Mr. Hanna stated that the units picked out earlier had been sent to Ninety-six High School because of their facility emergency.

Mr. Hanna

- Showed pictures of units that are available and urged the facilities committee to meet with him next week to choose and mark the units that are most usable for GMC. One unit will be needed as a restroom.
- Presented an engineering proposal of \$16,895 to prepare the site for the units.
- Discussed other expenses involved for the GMC planning committee, such as moving, setting up, remodeling the units as well as new power service, permits, and other expenses.
- Explained that pines would need to be removed and a road would be constructed to the back of the property for the high school.

Mr. Hanna stated that a preliminary site has been identified for the new high school on the Greer campus.

Finally, Mr. Hanna suggested that the planning committee needs to make the decision about facilities and move ahead quickly, and to begin planning early for the new building.

2. Mr. Crawford, Mr. Jones, and Mr. Cowan met last week with representatives of Fairview Baptist Church and with representatives of North Greenville College. They determined that (1) to receive a certificate of occupancy for the older facility would be cost prohibitive, and (2) the newer facility does not have enough space for our school.
3. Taylors First Baptist Church was suggested as a possible site. Mrs. Greer will make the necessary contacts. GMC will need 6 teaching stations (600 sq. ft), office space, gym, and an option for a 2nd year lease.
4. Mr. Cowan suggested a building on Buncombe Rd. that may be available for use.
5. Mr. Cowan proposed the following:
 - The facilities committee will meet with Mr. Hanna on Wednesday morning to choose usable portables and will give a report to the GMC committee Wednesday afternoon.
 - Mrs. Greer will contact Taylors First Baptist Church and report her findings as soon as possible.
 - Mr. Cowan will investigate the feasibility of using the facility on Buncombe and report his findings as soon as possible.

- Teacher Recruitment – Mrs. Williams read through applications today and has interviews set up for Friday, Saturday, and Monday.
- Budget
 - Mr. Crawford and Mr. Snow are currently closing out the Planning Grant with the annual report. GMC still has monies for site visits that need to be used. In late April or early May, GMC should receive the first part (“seed money”) of the Implementation Grant.
 - Monies may also be available through the Middle College Consortium and the Coalition of Essential Schools, Small Schools Initiative.

New Business

- Small Schools Network Meeting
Karen Kennedy will attend a conference in Memphis April 17-18. If possible, a newly hired faculty member will accompany her.
- Site Visit
Mikelle Porter and Jill Rose will coordinate dates with Jean Williams to visit Los Angeles Harbor College.
- Jill Rose, representing GMC, will speak at the May meeting of the Greenville County School Board meeting.
- Next meeting date:
GMC will meet on April 8, 2008
- Mrs. Williams will be back in Greer from April 7 – 11 and will attend the next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:05