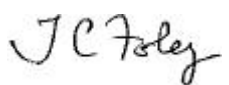


COUNTY OF ALBEMARLE

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

AGENDA TITLE: Consideration of Additional Uses for B.F. Yancey Elementary School	AGENDA DATE: October 10, 2012
SUBJECT/PROPOSAL/REQUEST: Potential establishment of a Committee to Evaluate Possible Additional Uses for B.F. Yancey Elementary School	ACTION: X INFORMATION:
STAFF CONTACT(S): Messrs. Foley, Elliott & Davis, Ms. Ralston	CONSENT AGENDA: ACTION: INFORMATION:
LEGAL REVIEW: Yes	ATTACHMENTS: Yes
	REVIEWED BY: 

BACKGROUND:

At its August 9, 2012 meeting, the Albemarle County School Board (School Board) discussed maintenance-related capital improvement projects (CIP), including those specified for B.F. Yancey Elementary School (Yancey). The School Board affirmed its commitment to the approved HVAC and roof system replacement projects already specified in the adopted CIP, and also indicated a commitment to prioritizing a new septic system that would require the acquisition of property adjacent to Yancey. The School Board placed lower priority on proposed CIP projects to modernize and add on to Yancey, following the Superintendent's suggestion that the School Division work with General Government to assess a broader range of community needs before making such a larger investment.

The School Board expressed interest in working with the Board of Supervisors to discuss how both Boards could facilitate bringing the Esmont community and other stakeholders together to explore and assess the broad range of service needs in the southern portion of the County and how Yancey Elementary may be considered in meeting those needs, in addition to its continued use as an elementary school. Following this meeting, the School Superintendent and County Executive scheduled this matter for discussion by both Boards at the October 10, 2012 joint meeting.

As a beginning point for identifying needs in the area and potential options to address those needs, this executive summary provides background information on the work of a task force formed approximately six years ago to consider needs in the areas. This task force consisted of residents of southern Albemarle County, as well as representatives of the County's School Division and Department of Social Services, Jefferson Area Board for Aging (JABA), and Children Youth and Family Services, Inc. The task force reviewed and analyzed data and input provided by residents and service providers to better identify needs or area residents. To continue its work, it organized the Southern Albemarle Intergenerational Center, Inc. (SAIC), a not-for-profit 501(C)(3) organization. SAIC is dedicated to constructing an intergenerational center to provide needed services and to address a broad range of issues and challenges facing residents of southern Albemarle County.

STRATEGIC PLAN:

- Goal 1: Provide excellent educational opportunities to all Albemarle County residents
- Goal 2: Provide community facilities that meet existing and future needs
- Goal 3: Encourage a diverse and vibrant local economy
- Goal 5: Ensure the health and safety of the community
- Goal 6: Promote individual responsibility and citizen ownership of community challenges

DISCUSSION:

In 2008, SAIC, in conjunction with Shannon E. Jarrott, Ph.D. of Virginia Tech, published the Southern Albemarle County Shared Site Intergenerational Program: Feasibility Study (Attachment A). The purpose of this study was to explore the need for and feasibility of an intergenerational community center providing child care and senior center programming in southern Albemarle County. Data were gathered by Dr. Jarrott and her associate via census data, parent surveys, parent focus groups, child care provider phone surveys, and senior center participant discussion groups. Based upon Dr. Jarrott's research, the task force identified the need for a community center that provides comprehensive intergenerational services.

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This study confirmed the need for additional care and service options for southern Albemarle County residents, particularly older adults and families with young children. It was confirmed that child care slots are insufficient to meet the needs of parents in the area, and senior center facilities are physically deteriorating while programming is offered only on a limited basis of 1-2 days per week. The study further validated work by other organizations in the region, including the Southern Albemarle Child Care Coalition (SACCC) which identified a goal in 2007 (or earlier), "to develop a community service center in the southern Albemarle region that will provide a comprehensive set of intergenerational services."

Finally, the study recommended that the center include phased introduction of community and social services programs, with the first phase targeting child care and senior center programming, and subsequent phases potentially including medical care, a youth center, employment services, and adult day health care. A site was identified on Route 6 between Esmont and Scottsville, where Southern Albemarle Family Practice is currently located, that could potentially be the location for a shared site intergenerational program including a child care and a senior center. The Department of Social Services and JABA submitted a County CIP request of \$3.9 million in 2011 (Attachment B) to support construction of the project and explored means to achieve the goal identified by SACCC; however, this project was not recommended for funding.

Since the study was published in 2008, SAIC has (1) obtained an agreement with Southern Albemarle Family Practice to use its land for a building; (2) obtained a Special Use Permit approval from the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors for use of this land for the proposed intergenerational services center; (3) retained the services of an architect to start design on a building; (4) designed a capital campaign; and (5) as mentioned above, restructured the task force into a non-profit organization. Although much work has been accomplished in the past four years, the recent economic slowdown has not been conducive to fundraising or capital financing; therefore, the potential use of Yancey to host some or all of these activities and services is perhaps worthy of consideration.

BUDGET IMPACT:

There are no operating or capital impacts associated with engaging a key group of stakeholders in evaluating the feasibility of using Yancey to provide additional services for residents in southern Albemarle County. The need for any future capital and operating funds would require full consideration of partnerships, grants, fundraising and other resources.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

This item was scheduled for consideration by the two Board's regarding the potential formation of a community committee to explore service needs in the southern portion of the County, with a particular focus on the feasibility of utilizing Yancey Elementary to address those needs, in addition to its continued use as an elementary school. As has been described, intergenerational needs have previously been explored by a committee and their work provides a good base of information for any potential future work. Members of this committee may be appropriate to serve on a future committee should this effort proceed. The Boards should also consider if a more comprehensive review of needs in the area, beyond those identified by this group, should be explored as well.

Staff is looking for direction regarding the desire of the two Boards to form a committee. If that is the desire, the membership and a clear charge for the committee will need to be developed and brought back to the Board's for final consideration.

ATTACHMENTS:

A – [Southern Albemarle Feasibility Study Report](#)

B – [Southern Albemarle Intergeneration Center FY11 CIP Request](#)

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