

**AT A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS HELD IN AND FOR GADSDEN
COUNTY, FLORIDA ON JANUARY 8, 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.,
THE FOLLOWING PROCEEDING WAS HAD, VIZ:**

Present: **Brenda Holt, District 4, Chair, - absent**
 Dr. Anthony “Dr. V” Viegbesie, District 2 - absent
 Eric Hinson, Vice Chair, District 1 - Present
 Gene Morgan, District 3 - absent
 Sherrie Taylor, District 5 - Present
 Dee Jackson, Interim County Administrator
 David Weiss, County Attorney
 Beryl H. Wood, Deputy Clerk
 Angela Sapp (City Commissioner) - Present

INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Taylor called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the Stevens School Community Meeting.

Vision:

The vision of Stevens Multipurpose Cultural Arts Center is to create a one-stop facility that is driven by the needs of the Gadsden County Community.

Mission:

To create a comprehensive facility that provides and increases public safety, health and wellness, economic development, youth education and enrichment, recreational activities and cultural awareness.

Chair Taylor said she spoke with Al Lawson. He said a lot of the cities were requesting things. He said the smaller amount may be more beneficial. He said the Governor may be a little more willing now.

Citizens did the walkthrough of the Cafeteria remaining from the Old Steven’s School. The goal was to see the building and discuss Buildout of that building. She said the consensus was to start using dollars now.

Arrie Battles suggested that they bring a police substation to the city building and that would free up space for other possibilities.

Commissioner Sapp said the Kelly – Campbell was a sound structure. She would also like to lobby for the police substation out of this building.

Mrs. Battles also pointed out that there was dilapidated property across from Stevens School that could be purchased and used for parking.

Discussion occurred about property surrounding the property across from Stevens School.

Commissioner Taylor asked Mr. Collins to come explain the drawing. He said the two side doors are where the formal entrance would be.

Mr. Collins commented take out? and put glass, take out one wall in the back. He suggested dressing up what was there and put in a storefront.

Commissioner Taylor asked what did they want to see. The group said to keep the stage, business incubator and wellness together, storefront, culinary school. You could still leave the big part out and use for weddings, etc. rent it out.

Commissioner Taylor said what you are getting ready to do now will have to stay essentially. We have to make sure services are consistent.

Carolyn Ford commented on health and wellness, will be run by volunteers. She suggested they contact Community Health Nurse – Camilla Jefferies.

Commissioner Taylor commented on the business and health and wellness: her suggestion was if they leave open space they can have educational programs.

Mrs. Inez Holt asked how much time and money would this cost.

Mrs. Ford said that they needed to design a 3rd Buildout for children and until then it could go into this renovated building. Then plan other two buildings to make up the entire space.

Commissioner Taylor summed it up for clarity.... First it should include:

- ***a nice storefront buildout heading west***
- ***central heat and air***
- ***drop ceiling***
- ***painting***
- ***stage looking good***
- ***curtains***
- ***commercial kitchen***
- ***varnish floors***
- ***restrooms***
- ***nice roof***
- ***Petitions could also be used, may use portable petitions that would give more space.***
- ***Would like work to begin within 3 -6 months. The area where the initial cleaning was done could be used for parking.***

Mrs. Jackson commented there were a couple of designs for parking to make the retention pond a lot smaller. For example, she discussed the Tallahassee Mall where they have green parking with grass and rocks that they call eco -friendly parking.

Commissioner Sapp said she was in favor of them taking this plan and start working on something, maintain the big area make it look nice and appealing, restructure stage, floors, not tearing up anything just making space, commercial kitchen, replacing the ceiling and eco-friendly parking.

Mrs. Jackson asked what design scheme they were in favor of.

Commissioner Taylor commented this was a huge accomplishment getting to this point. She said "let's keep it moving"She reiterated Commissioner Sapp will lobby for a police substation at the Kelly Campbell instead of the Old Steven's School.

Color Scheme:

The Steven's School Committee came up with a color scheme of:

- ***light blue, blue family,***
- ***beige, brown***
- ***eco – friendly parking to save money.***

Commissioner Holt said she would like the property clean across the street behind the old building.

Consensus:

- ***Storefront with a business incubator***
- ***health wellness***
- ***and educational program for children***

Mrs. Jackson asked that they trust the County to make decisions and that would save money. She asked if they were all in favor of going to work and the consensus was yes.

Mr. Collins said that a lot of work had to be done first.

Commissioner Taylor mentioned a monument with their names inscribed as labor of love and sacrifice for their dedication to this project. She would like something with their names on the inside. She said they can discuss something on the outside, such as a monument that can go with the other phases of the project at the next meeting.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2018 - Bring monument discussion back up and update on what they have so far.

Adjournment

**THERE BEING NO OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE COUNCIL, THE CHAIR DECLARED THE MEETING
ADJOURNED AT 6:25 P.M.**

BRENDA HOLT, CHAIR

ATTEST:

NICHOLAS THOMAS, CLERK