

Blenheim

Thursday, May 12, 2011

5:30 – 7:30pm

18+ attendees

BREAKOUT SESSION (SB, DC)

Site Significance

- Several participants were students and/or had children who attended Blenheim.
 - Lots of memories. School is very important
 - Can point out daughter's classroom. Family history
 - All of my children went here. Remembers teachers and death of 6th grade teacher.
 - Both sons went here. Became active with LINC program- before/after school program. Black history month program, community service like library
- School had needed programs/served as a resource to the community
 - Computer classes for adults
 - Health program – served as an alternative to Research Hospital Emergency Room
 - Food pantry ran out of school
 - Utility and bill assistance

Strengths

- Location- transportation
- Elevator
- Gym
- Parking-ample
- Children in the area-opportunity to serve need
- Historic building
- Amenable to many uses

Challenges (Interim solutions in blue)

- Vandalism- copper theft: [Police caught vandals. Increase security/higher visibility. Change schedule/not predicable at higher frequency. Outside lights in parking lot.](#)
- Water damage in gym

Community Needs

- Health clinic- take load off Research ER
- Safe place for children
- Mentoring/tutoring children
- children
- Adult education

- Access to food (previously served by pantry)
- Jobs
- Activities for seniors
- Healthy cooking instruction- diabetes & other diet needs
- Senior housing
- Access to services
- Swimming pool- exercise, wellness

Reuse Options (that could address community needs)

- Health Clinic- next closest is Swope
- Food pantry
- Service Center- social services, SSI-closer office, utility assistance help for families
- Interviewing job search skills/ use of site will create jobs
- Community member heard that Big Brothers/Big Sisters might be interested in the site
- Safe place for kids
- Senior/multiuse community center
- Community garden/cooking instruction
- Apartment housing for seniors like DA Holmes
- Informal Proposal Received - Charter School: 6-12th grades + center/resource center for community. Career and college prep extended service to community
 - Community Reaction to Charter: Concerned about younger kids mixing with older students. Would prefer younger age school-Pre K to 7th

Parking Lot

- How often does security check building?
- Outside lights (security)?