

Meservey Site Tour

Thursday, June 16, 2011

5:30 -7:30pm

7 attendees

BREAKOUT SESSION (SB)

Site Significance

- “Keepsake” - went to school and would like to see grandchildren experience building. Look to it as an opportunity now (faith based)
- Kids being bused to schools out of neighborhood currently
- Empty buildings are a temptation (vandalism)
- Loitering around building currently, but not a lot of vandalism
- Nice to see school is still standing

Strengths

- Dance studio, theatre rooms are unique features and could be used by community
- Outside features provide opportunity for event space
- Close to transit (bus lines)
- Outdoor area- could have a lot of neighborhood events on site vs. close down a street
- Central location

Challenges

- Could attract vandals
- Large building, perhaps expensive to renovate/maintain. Hard to find funding sources
- Need for partnerships to make project viable

Community Needs

- To feel safe
- Free/low cost community services
- Multiple entities working together
- Community event space
- Variety of housing needs (senior housing, income-based housing)
- Low adult literacy: KC literacy survey
- Adult education
- Kids need tutoring start @ early age
- Help for reformed prisoners: good people coming out of jail need help
- Drug/alcohol rehabilitation
- Family counseling
- Health care services needed, but a lot of red tape to get through

Reuse Options (that could address community needs)

- Something that addresses community needs
- Shelter, pantry, health services
- Faith based assistance center
- Senior housing
- Disabled housing: accessibility
- Low, income based housing
- Mixed use: senior housing and community activities
- Homeschoolers could use site
- Adult education
- Re-entry program for those coming out of jail