

West End Elementary School Naming Committee Meeting
John Adams Elementary Media Center
December 6, 2017
6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Committee Chair Cindy Anderson called the West End Elementary School Naming Committee Meeting to order at 6:37 p.m.

West End Elementary Naming Committee members who were present included: Chair Anderson, Carlos Alfaro, Janese Bechtol, Keenan Cooper, Jerry File, Jim Henson, Blanche Mays Maness (arrived during the research reports), and Kristen Weber. Committee members Karen Dunkley, J-Lynn Van Pelt and Imran Gill were not present.

Attendees included Jennifer Abbruzzese, Clerk of the Board and Policy Liaison, and Helen Lloyd, ACPS Director of Communications.

1. Approval of Minutes for the November 29, 2017 West End Elementary School Naming Committee Meeting

Chair Anderson welcomed the Naming Committee to the meeting and asked them to review the minutes from the November 29th meeting. Mr. File moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Henson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by all those present, 7-0. Ms. Mays Maness arrived after the vote.

2. Committee Member Research Reports

Committee members Mr. Henson, Mr. Cooper, Ms. Mays Maness, and Ms. Weber presented background research on the following individuals, whose names had been recommended by members of the public:

- Ferdinand T. Day
- Catherine Winkler Herman
- A. Melvin Miller
- George Lewis Seaton

Mr. File volunteered to bring research on Sarah Brady to the January 10, 2018 meeting. Mr. Alfaro volunteered to bring research on Booker T. Washington to the January 10, 2018 meeting. Ms. Bechtel volunteered to bring research on Dorothy Vaughn, Mary Jackson, and Katherine Johnson to the January 10, 2018 meeting.

3. Outreach Update

Ms. Lloyd reviewed the community outreach efforts to date, both to external groups and ACPS families. Ms. Lloyd also discussed the social media videos that have been created to explain the naming process. A summary of ongoing outreach efforts and links to the social media videos may be found at:

http://esbpublic.acps.k12.va.us/public_itemview.aspx?ItemId=10641&mtgId=1277.

4. Naming Recommendations Received to Date

Committee members engaged in a “dot democracy” exercise by placing circular stickers on the naming recommendations received to date that:

- They supported (green stickers); or
- They did not support (red stickers).

The results were:

New Hope – 4 red
Ingrid Bynum – 3 red
Bill Euille – 2 red
Lady Liberty – 4 red, 1 green
West End – 2 red
John Alexander – 2 red
Mill – 2 red
Anne Spencer – 1 red
West End (as part of a longer name) – 1 red, 1 green
Barack/Michelle Obama – 6 green
Ferdinand T. Day – 7 green
Sarah Brady – 3 green
George Seaton – 3 green
Patsy Ticer – 2 green
Sonia Sotomayor – 2 green
Mary Jackson – 2 green
Ella Fitzgerald – 2 green
Katherine Johnson – 2 green
Catherine Winkler Herman – 2 green
Harriet Ann Jacobs – 1 green
Mary and Emily Edmonson – 1 green
Harriet Beecher Stowe – 1 green
Douglas Wilder – 1 green
Booker T. Washington – 1 green

Mr. File left the meeting after the dot democracy exercise.

After discussion of the 164 naming recommendations received thus far, the committee chose to remove the following submissions from further consideration as the main name for the new school.

- Bill Euille
- Harriet Beecher Stowe
- Ingrid Bynum
- John Alexander
- Lady Liberty
- Mill
- New Hope
- Snowden-Halliwell
- West End

5. Adjourn

Mr. Henson moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Weber seconded the motion. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously by all those present, 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

The next meeting of the West End Elementary School Naming Committee will be held January 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the William Ramsay Elementary School Media Center.