

Citizens' group asks

for real dialogue

Citizens of District 99, you voted three times to turn down the building of a high school in Woodridge. Now please voice your intentions to District 99 on what to do with the property. There is a District 99 School Board meeting set for 7:30 p.m. Thursday, June 16, and the regularly scheduled School Board meeting is set for 7 p.m. Monday, June 20.

Please come to these meetings to talk. The June 16 meeting is a newly added to the agenda's "closed" executive session regarding "reviewing the land bids/appraisals."

This School Board meeting is currently scheduled to be located at 6301 Springside Ave., which is District 99's administrative offices, but hopefully will be moved to Downers South at the citizens' request.

At the last meeting, School Board President Julia Beckman said she would "get back to us" as to if she and the board and administration would honor our Freedom of Information request to include an open forum and allow enough space for the 500 people who attended our first meeting May 31. The citizen action group called www.keepgreenspacegreen.com had scheduled a march outside District 99's offices June 10, but out of respect for the graduates and families, we moved the marches to Woodridge.

KGSG made the following request at its last meeting, June 10:

A request to Ms. Beckman and representatives of the District 99 School Board and administration: Since you have taken to advertising chastisement of the citizens of District 99 and the mayor of Woodridge, we respectfully ask you consider executing the following requests of the citizens of District 99:

1. Will you give us an opportunity for real public comment, at the June 16 meeting, the June 20 meeting and all future meetings?
2. Our first meeting drew 500 people. Will you have the space for at least 500 people which we expect as outlined in the Freedom of Information Act?
3. Will you please allow for an open dialogue, without any type of time limit? We request Ms. Beckman host a question-and-answer session with the citizens of District 99.
4. Will you tell us the date you will start to talk about the land in open dialogue with the citizens of District 99 and Woodridge?
5. Will you tell us the date you will start to talk about the land with the Woodridge officials?
6. Will you allow three non-board/non-administration community members be present at all sessions regarding the land as follows: an individual from the citizen's action group Keep Green Space Green, an individual Ms. Beckman and Mayor Murphy agree upon, and an individual chosen by Ms. Beckman.

Phil Labak

Joni Mimnaugh

Ryan and Heather McNeice

Scott Demers

Woodridge