

NORMAN HARRINGTON

OXFORD COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.
Oxford, Maryland 21654

January 19, 1981

Mr. James Farmar, President
Commissioners of Oxford
Oxford, Maryland 21654

Dear Mr. Farmar:

I am responding to your request for a written report of our immediate and future plans for the Oxford School Building, and a financial report of the non-profit corporation formed to utilize the building as a community center.

First priority will be a clean-up, fix-up operation to stabilize the building and make it useable. The major problem appears to be the roof areas. Roofs on the two one-story classroom sections at East and West will be replaced. Storm damage to the high roof on the center portion of the building will be repaired. Windows broken by vandals will be replaced. Other paint-up, fix-up work will be accomplished as seems indicated.

While this work is progressing, a Program Committee representative of the entire community will be recruited to plan and eventually conduct recreational activities designed to meet the desires and needs of all age groups. The committee will seek the advice, cooperation and support of such agencies as County Parks & Recreation, Upper Shore Aging, the Talbot County YMCA, 4-H, Boy and Girl Scouts, and others... including, of course, Oxford's own Recreation Commission.

It is contemplated that at least one classroom...and possibly two...will be reserved for community use. The auditorium will also serve the community on a scheduled basis, thus allowing flexibility to accommodate free recreation programs, community events and rentals...as would be the case with Talbot Little Theater for perhaps three weekends of plays each year.

Funds for the year-to-year operating costs of the building will be derived from rental of four classroom spaces, from donations, and from other sources, including grants for specific programs or projects. There are several rental possibilities for the four classrooms. Talbot Little Theater has previously expressed interest in two... one for rehearsal and the other for storage. This

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possibility will be explored, as will other prospects for the remaining space including subdivision into rental storage units (compartments or cages)...three or more to a classroom area.

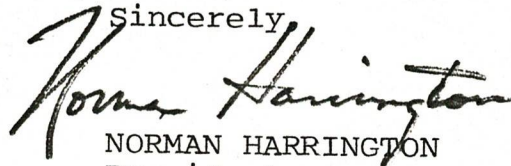
It should be noted that for the time being, at least, we do not contemplate use of the building's central heating system. Instead, individual heat pumps will be installed in those classroom spaces requiring them...either by us or through arrangements with tenants. Minimal heating will be provided in the bathrooms. The auditorium will be unheated. Its use will therefore be scheduled for the nine to ten months of the year when heat is not a necessity.

These plans represent start-up thinking. From a long range standpoint, we would hope that with each year there will be increased utilization of the building by the people of the town and perhaps eventually by the town government.

From a financial standpoint, Oxford Community Center, Inc. has \$10,000 in The Talbot Bank from two anonymous donations, and a firm pledge of \$1,000 more from another donor. We have requested the Commissioners of Oxford to contribute the \$10,000 that was budgeted for demolition of the old school. Approval of this would bring the corporation's assets to \$20,000, plus a \$1,000 pledge available when requested. The Center's Officers and Board have not yet set capital and operating budgets, but will raise whatever additional funds that are needed through private subscription.

We welcome suggestions, and look forward to cooperating with the Commissioners of Oxford in every way possible to make the operation of Oxford Community Center an undertaking worthy of our cherished town.

Sincerely,



NORMAN HARRINGTON
President
Oxford Community Center, Inc.

cc:Mr. Emory Balderson
Mr. Fletcher Hanks
Mr. Sidney S. Campen, Jr.
Mr. Philip G. Conner
Mr. Douglas Hanks, Jr.
Mrs. John E. Jackson
Mrs. Donald Kammert
Mr. Guy Lovelace
Mrs. Dorothy Moore