



PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEASURE TT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Citizens' Oversight Committee held on September 16, 2010 at the Education Center, 351 S. Hudson Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101, in room 240.

PRESENT:

Committee: Jon Fuhrman, Carolyn Ellner, Joanna Bauer, Augustin Zuniga, Ed Barnum, Lee Johnson, James Kossler, Kenneth Hargreaves, Rita Turner

Board Member: Ed Honowitz

Staff: Steve Brinkman, Wendy Childress

Guest: Gerald Schober, Owners Representative

Absent: Paul Hunt, Joel Sheldon, George Fatheree, Gregory Barna, Charles Bryant, Sid Tyler

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jon Fuhrman called meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF August 19, 2010 MEETING

Motion by Carolyn Ellner to approve August 19 meeting minutes with correction, seconded by Augustin Zuniga was approved unanimously.

D. WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Rita Turner – Pasadena

E. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

1. Resignation of George Fatheree - he has moved to Glendale and therefore is stepping down as Vice Chair
2. Election of new Vice Chair
Brief discussion on electing Vice Chair at this meeting or agendize this for next meeting.
Decision: agendize
3. Status of Annual Bond and Performance Audits
Staff reported that the Annual Bond Audit has been reconciled to bond account and the District will not have the audit completed for another month or two. COC will receive a copy of the full report once it is completely reconciled to the audited financial statement.

It was noted that the COC's main charge is to make sure that the monies were spent appropriately.

F. DISCUSSION//PRESENTATION/ACTION ITEMS

1. Planning for 2009-2010 Annual Report to Board

The completion of the COC's annual report will be based on the final audits. Staff reiterated that hopefully the audits will be completed by December and completion of the audits are driven by the District Auditors not the bond auditors.

Decision was made to wait to compile the Annual COC report based on the Actual Audited results.

G. REPORTS FROM PUSD FACILITIES DIRECTOR

1. Measure TT Consolidated Expenditure Report - 7-31-10
 - Mr. Brinkman noted that the Cumulative Bid List shows 7 million dollars ahead based on staff estimates. He also informed the committee that the District is still seeing a 20-40% difference on bids (lower). He noted that the Longfellow Child Care Modernization bid opened today at \$177,000, which was budgeted for \$400,000. The same group that created the temporary village for Sierra Madre in less than 60 days was the lowest bidder for this project. (Compliment from parent that her daughter was happy to be able to see out of the windows).
 - Committee member(s) expressed interest in knowing the number of bids received for the projects, if the bidders are pre-qualified, and if the District is receiving a low number of respondents to bids. Member wanted to know if in the bidding process the District had to accept the lowest bid and staff answered yes, however, there is a provision for the firm to back out if they feel they cannot honestly do the work for the bid amount entered.
 - Blair MS project

Mr. Brinkman reported that the District is at a point where it is looking at overtime only when needed due to the shoring situation with the beams and he noted there had been a disparity between the specs and plans, which caused some delay. He informed the Committee that they are close to being on schedule in spite of these mishaps and that the District is committed to making the schedule with most of the extra cost being absorbed by the architect or contractor. There was discussion regarding the Lease Leaseback. Mr. Brinkman explained that the lease leaseback had contingencies that allowed them the leeway to go up to 2.5% without having to go back to the Board for approval of additional expenses.

Long-term plan for Blair is a new middle school, new 9th grade classroom wing modernization of main building

- Committee questioned if there had been/will be any crisis with the start of school on Tuesday. Staff informed the Committee that the Sierra Madre Village had no phones but two-way radios were provided until the system is up. There was a complaint from a Sierra Madre neighbor regarding noise and a crew working until 9:30 p.m. of which Mr. Brinkman informed resident that those were not District employees but Verizon.

- Window Projects

All of Marshall HS windows have been installed. There is still minor work to be done such as trim work, caulking, and panning. Gerald Schober, Owner Representative informed the committee that the contractor volunteered, at no additional cost, to put storefront windows in the cafeteria

Longfellow – 95% of the windows have been installed and the auditorium windows are complete.

Madison- 70% of the windows are complete due to delay of the shipment of windows

Longfellow and Madison still have signage to be put up. Each of the 3 sites will get new signage with the only downside being all of the Facilities Deferred Maintenance money has been taken away. So, no more window replacement can be done.

Question was asked whether it was just the windowpanes replaced or more. Staff informed the Committee that all 3 schools have all new aluminum windows not just pane replacements.

Mr. Honowitz noted that \$1.4 million per year had been taken away by State due to budget cuts.

2. Cumulative Bid List - 8-31-10

No discussion

3. Other developments of Significance to C.O.C.

Committee members wanted to know Mr. Brinkman's plan since he has retired. Mr. Brinkman explained that there is an Interim Chief in place and he was here for 5 days but now gone until September 27th. Mr. Patrick Kennedy is the person

serving as the Interim Chief and has worked with the District a couple of times before.

H. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE CHAIRS

1. Report from Outreach Sub-committee – Ms. Ellner
Ms. Ellner reported that the entire committee has been added to PUSD's email blasts. Ms. Childress will get school site council meeting dates for the upcoming year and distribute to the committee.

Ms. Ellner will work on re-assigning Fatheree's school(s). She reported that she had heard favorable comments about the windows that have been installed.

2. Report on School Consolidation Committee – Mr. Fuhrman/Mrs. Bauer
Mr. Fuhrman reported that the Board and Superintendent has put together 21 individuals by identifying various interest groups and requested that each group select a member to attend. Committee is comprised of parents, teacher's union representative, and various others. It is the charge of this committee to look at the sites designated for potential closure by the Board.

There are 7 elementary schools on the list: Burbank, Loma Alta, San Rafael, Field, Norma Coombs, Roosevelt, and Jackson. The District is not looking at closing any middle schools or high schools at present. The committee has the task of looking at these 7 schools and recommending 3 sites for closure and determining how to reassign students. Administration has agreed to vacate the Ed Center building by August 11, 2011. The Committee is to reconvene with the Superintendent on October 15th to discuss their recommendations. The Committee is also assigned with determining with the best use of the sites.

There has been no discussion regarding the sale of any property. The meeting held on 9/15/10 focused on Facilities. Mr. Brinkman walked the Committee through the Facility side of this project with included size, capacity of schools in question etc. Additionally, he gave an overview of how much money had been dedicated in the FMP and how much has already been spent.

The COC hopes that the District will consider the demographics and questioned whether the School Consolidation Committee will use a rubric when making its decision. Mr. Fuhrman stated that the committee is looking at a set of 10 criteria. Some of the criteria are school performance, parents' view of the school, enrollment, the number of neighborhood students attending, date of construction and facilities money unspent on the school. He noted that documents pertaining to the Committee and its findings are at www.school-consolidation.pusd.us

COC asked if there was any charter school representation on this committee and Mr. Fuhrman responded he is not certain if there is an actual charter school representative on the Committee but charter schools are being considered as rearrangements are made. He also noted that there is potential for rearranging charter school(s) location(s) if necessary.

Mr. Fuhrman is chairing this committee and the Dolinka Group is facilitating. He noted that schools housing Special Needs Programs are not automatically exempt from closure because the program can be moved to another site. COC member expressed concern about the outreach for this Committee noting that the

press release was the day before it met and that the community has no idea what is going on with the School Consolidation Committee. It was mentioned that there was no public comment at the first meeting due to lack of awareness. Mr. Fuhrman mentioned that the public can post comments on the website and possibly at community forums. Mr. Honowitz will talk to the Superintendent regarding expanding communication so that the community is aware of what is happening.

3. Report from Liaisons to Facilities and Capital Subcommittee – Mr. Barnum/Mr. Hargreaves

Mr. Barnum reported that the District has received the \$500,000 grant for the soccer field and more was expected. Mr. Brinkman stated that the \$500,000 had already been deposited and another \$500,000 was coming from FC Golden State and LA Futbol (youth soccer clubs). Mr. Zuniga suggested that having 2 big donations like this would be a great segue for a fundraiser.

Mr. Barnum reported that there were a lot of good updates given on the water meter project. There was also discussion about solar energy (13-16 yr payback with solar) but it has been placed on the backburner.

Willard – new plan for pre-school & kinder is slightly better than old

Discussion regarding removing bungalows at Webster

Mr. Brinkman stated that there is \$850,000 left for the elimination of bungalows.

Mr. Honowitz reported that school started and we have no State budget and probably will not have one until late November. In addition, he reported that ADA is down, and the District is losing more low-income families. Enrollment revenue loss had been a huge issue however, with 4% currently the decline, State funding is the major part of the loss. COC member asked if federal money will augment anything and Mr. Honowitz stated that it is estimated that the District will get approximately \$3.5 million that it was not anticipating; however, the State must pass the dollars down and the Governor has not signed anything as of yet. Good news is that test scores are going up.

I. REPORT FROM BOARD LIAISON – Mr. Honowitz

Stated in discussion above; nothing additional

J. REPORTS FROM SITE VISITS - No site visits

K. NEXT MEETING DATE AND ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting **October 21st at 5:30 p.m.**

Decision will be made at upcoming meeting regarding November meeting

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 p.m. by Chair, Jon Fuhrman