

Please Post

San Bernardino City Unified School District

Special Meeting of the Measure T Bond
Citizens' Oversight Committee

Conference Room G & H

Time: 1:00 –3:00 pm

Board of Education Building
777 North F Street
San Bernardino, California 92410

MINUTES

September 12, 2007

Committee Members	Representing	Present	Absent
Teresa Alba	Parent	X	
Robbi Brunk	At-large	X	
Soledad Castillo	Parent/PTA Member		X
Carl Clemons	At-large	X	
Ronald Coats	Business Community	X	
J. Pat Ferraris	Business Community		X
Margaret Hill	Senior Citizen	X	
Marion Vassilakos	Tax Payer's Organization	X	

District Support	Department	Present	Absent
Dr. Arturo Delgado	Superintendent's Office		X
John Peukert	Facilities/Operations		X
Wael Elatar	Facilities Management	X	
Keith Kajiya	URS Facilities Program Management	X	
Beth Alexander	Facilities Management	X	

1. Opening

- a. Call to Order
Chairperson Robbi Brunk called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.
- b. Introduction of New Member
Ms. Tierney Harris was introduced. She fills the vacancy of the Member At-Large position. Robbi Brunk gave her a brief overview of the current issues being discussed pertaining to the expenditure of Bond funds for District staff salaries.
- c. Approval of the Special Meeting Minutes for August 28, 2007
The approval of the minutes was tabled until the next meeting to incorporate comments received from members.

2. Old Business

a. Use of Bond funds for District Staff Salaries

Teresa Alba asked the question, “What is the purpose of the COC if they have no say in how the funds are spent?” Margaret Hill responded by stating the purpose of the committee, based on the Policies and Guidelines, is to see that the Bond funds are spent appropriately on designated projects, but not to micro-manage the funding. Through procedures that come with having the funds, there is the mandate of annual audits by outside agencies and reporting to the COC and the School Board. If funds were being used incorrectly, the auditor would identify and report it. Carl Clemons stated that the COC does not have to wait until their Annual Report is presented to the Board in order to voice a concern, if the committee observes any discrepancies.

Robbi Brunk asked when the Board Agenda Item regarding the Bond Expenditures for Administrators’ Salaries was going to be presented. Keith Kajiya responded that he had written the item and if the Superintendent’s staff approved it, it would go as a Consent Item on October 2, 2007.

Wael Elatar handed out an example of a Multi-funded Employee Log to the members to show that the District employees have been doing these in the past. The three or four District Facilities Management Department employees, that are to be partially funded from Bond proceeds, would be required to report their time accordingly.

b. Community Outreach on Use of Bond Funds

A discussion followed on how the COC members could inform the community about the Bond projects and how the funds are being used. Several suggestions were discussed, such as: newspaper reporters at the School Board meetings and local television interviews in English and Spanish. Members had the following comments:

- Marion Vassilakos stated that through press releases, the public could be updated on the progress of the projects and have a better understanding of where the funds are being spent.
- Teresa Alba stated that she is concerned that the voters were misled and they need to be told how funds are being spent.
- Margaret Hill added that if the community sees and hears about how the current Bond was utilized, and the progress that has been made, they will be more inclined to vote for passing another Bond Proposition in the future.

Wael Elatar reported that the District has designated more projects than what the impending State Hardship funding will provide and they are already looking at the feasibility of another Bond Proposition going before the voters.

Wael Elatar stated that Keith Kajiya, John Peukert and he would be presenting the Facilities Capital Improvement Program Annual Report to the School Board on October 2, 2007.

3. New Business

a. Election of Officers

Carl Clemons made a motion, seconded by Ron Coats, to re-elect Robbi Brunk as Chair for another year. Motion passed. Margaret Hill made a motion, seconded by Teresa Alba, to elect Carl Clemons Vice-Chair. Motion passed.

4. **Administrative Report**

a. Facilities Capital Improvement Program Annual Report

Keith Kajiya presented the FCIP Annual Report to the members and told the committee that he would prepare a cost status report to present at the December 11 COC meeting regarding the projects that are funded by the Bond. A question and answer session occurred as follows:

- Carl Clemons asked about what happens to the Bond funds if the allocated amount is not all spent and if the funds may carry over to another project. Wael Elatar responded that usually projects need more, not less, but that there is a 5% contingency added to each project. If that money consists of bond funds, it can roll-over to another project. If the unspent money consists of State funding, it would have to be returned to the State.
- Margaret Hill asked about the completion dates for the three new schools. Keith Kajiya responded that each are scheduled to be completed in the Spring of 2008 and will be ready to open for the 2008-2009 school year.
- Wael Elatar presented the Middle School Prep component that will be integrated into the Rodriguez Elementary School campus. He also reported to the committee about the building of the new high school on the existing Curtis Middle School campus. The high school will be built with State Modernization funds to upgrade some of the existing buildings and additional funds to construct the new buildings.
- Carl Clemons asked about the Arroyo Valley High School field and bleacher project. Wael explained that the bleacher bids came in considerably lower than expected, so the District is now looking at natural vs. artificial turf costs. He also stated that this project is not being funded with Bond money.
- Margaret Hill asked when the Grand Opening of the new San Geronio High School stadium would be held. Wael Elatar reported that the Grand Opening would be on Friday, September 21, 2007, at 5:00 pm, prior to their first home football game.
- Carl Clemons asked if there were any schools having safety problems with the loading and unloading of students that ride school buses. Wael Elatar responded that new parking lots have been constructed at a few schools. Many more are needed. Additional Bond funding could be used for basic things such as parking lots and lunch shelters.
- Margaret Hill asked about the “Safe Routes to School” Program that the San Bernardino County Schools is working with. Wael responded that the District has identified sites that need improvements and has asked the City of San Bernardino and San Bernardino County to help with issues such as street repairs, sidewalks, lighting, etc. Marion Vassilakos asked about the legislation that Senator Neil Soto had written regarding “Safe Routes to School”. The funding for School Crossing Guards was discussed and it was clarified that Crossing Guards are funded through the City of San Bernardino, not the School District.

Robbi Brunk reminded the members that the next meeting will be on Tuesday, December 11, 2007, at 1:00 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 pm.

Questions: Please contact Facilities Department at (909) 381-1238