



PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT (PUSD)
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (COC) MEETING
Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2016

Location: 351 S. Hudson Avenue, Pasadena, CA, 91109. Conference Room #229

Present:

COC members: Clifton Cates, Willie Ordonez, Geoffrey Commons, Diana Verdugo, Quincy Hocutt, Joelle Morisseau-Phillips, Pam Boxley, Dr. Mikala Rahn

Community member: William Drake

Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Board Liaison: Patrick Cahalan

PUSD Staff: Nelson Cayabyab, Chief Facilities Officer; Nadia Zendejas, Executive Secretary; Malihe Shokouhi, Construction Specialist

I. Call to Order - Ms. Boxley

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

II. Public Comment

None

III. Approval of Minutes of November 18, 2015 and February 17, 2016

The minutes of November 18, 2015 were approved as submitted and the minutes of February 17, 2016 were approved, as amended.

IV. Reports by the Chief of Facilities - Mr. Cayabyab

A. Statewide Educational Wrap Up Program (known as SEWUP)

- The Statewide Educational Wrap Up Program is an insurance program designed to protect the District from construction risks by transferring such risks from the District to a statewide Joint Powers Authority. This extends the warranty of the contractors' work and provides insurance for on-the-job injuries for the contractors. This program potentially saves money for the District and provides the District with a safer risk-contained environment.

B. Measure TT Bond Refinance & Third Bond Issuance

- CEO Adam Bauer of Fieldman, Rolapp and Associates chaired a presentation regarding the proposed refinancing of our existing school bonds and issuing a third and final bond package under Measure TT. It was noted that PUSD has a current opportunity, due to prevailing interest rates, to refinance our existing Measure TT bonds and thereby reduce interest costs for the District.
- This action will not only lower our bond interest rates but will also provide a slightly lower property tax rate for taxpayers.
- This action will reduce interest payments on currently outstanding bonds of \$86,040,000.

V. Pending Business, Discussion and Actions

A. Sub-Committees Discussion

- Mr. Cates encouraged committee members to volunteer to serve on at least one of the existing subcommittees of Audit, Facilities, Website, or Public Outreach. Service would not be limited to only these particular sub-committees.

B. Follow up on Board Report 914-F and action by the Committee

- The Committee resolved that the District's charging to Proposition TT funds the expense of a public relations survey by the District was improper under the law. Messrs. Cahalan and Cayabyab said that the situation would be rectified by the end of the fiscal year by booking the expense to a more appropriate District account. Facilities staff is to report when that transfer has been done.

C. COC Website improvement project

- Mr. Cahalan volunteered to spearhead an effort to redo the Measure TT website.

VI. Report by the Board of Education Liaison - Mr. Cahalan

- A summary document was distributed covering several appointment issues: Ms. Vance, Mr. Cates and Ms. Boxley requested re-appointment to the committee. Mr. Barnum has termed out. The first service term

expires in 2017 for all remaining members. A 2015 applicant who remains interested in joining the committee qualifies under the “Bona fide Taxpayer’s” organization category.

- The district will publish a public call for applications for COC membership. The intent is for the Committee to stand at a full complement of 15 members in 2017.

VII. Report by the COC Project Finance Monitor - Ms. Boxley

- Ms. Boxley did not present a report to the committee at this time.
Action: Ms. Boxley will complete the report and forward it to Nadia Zendejas for distribution to the COC members.

VIII. Comments regarding San Rafael Elementary School

- Mr. Commons expressed his concern, and the concern of other citizens who live near San Rafael Elementary School, that the school is losing its character as a neighborhood school, which is what many people feel it should be. Mr. Commons advocated that the Committee take a stand on this issue before the Board. Some Committee members objected on the ground that such matters of curriculum and educational policy are beyond the scope of the Committee’s purview. The discussion was tabled until new committee members are on board and available to discuss any modification of the role of the Citizens’ Oversight Committee beyond what current law requires the committee to do.

IX. Future meeting dates and locations

- The next meeting is scheduled for April 20, 2016 at Field Elementary School, located at 3600 E. Sierra Madre Blvd., Pasadena, CA 91107.
Tour: 6:00 p.m. Meeting: 6:30 p.m.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 pm