

NEWHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT
Measure E Citizens Oversight Committee (COC)
January 12, 2015
Meadows School

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:55 PM by Acting Chairperson Caroline Jackson

COC members present: Gary Baker, Caroline Jackson, Adele MacPherson, Joelle Nelson, Susan Anderson, Debbie Wolpert, Jose Gonzalez, Ashley Matkin

COC members absent: Jim Hicken, Larry McClements, Tricia Fossa

Staff present: Ronna Wolcott, Marc Winger

Others present: Amin Salari, Lundgren Management and Helena Jubany, NAC Architecture

A short tour of new classrooms at Meadows School was conducted prior to the start of the meeting.

MINUTES

May 12, 2014 Minutes were approved. Unofficial Minutes of September 15, 2014 (lack of quorum) were distributed prior to the meeting.

EXTENSION OF TERMS OF OFFICE

Last year the Governing Board divided COC membership into staggered terms so that some members continued on as others' terms expired. Terms of office for members Anderson, Baker, Gonzalez, Matkin, McClements, and Wolpert are expiring in March 2015. Mrs. Wolcott asked if these members wanted to continue for their allowable third consecutive term. Mrs. Matkin declined. Mr. McClements will be contacted to determine his status. Mrs. Wolcott will recommend extension for those willing COC members at the January 20th meeting of the Governing Board and will start the process to solicit interest of new member(s) for Board approval.

CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE UPDATE

Mrs. Wolcott described the current status of construction projects.

- Stevenson Ranch is complete
- Meadows and Valencia Valley are near completion, with only small pieces left.
- The Newhall School classroom project is underway. This 2 story, 16 classroom project will replace all portables on site and should be completed in early August 2015. Buildings will arrive during spring break.

Helena Jubany provided information on the status of projects in regard to Division of State Architect (DSA) status.

- Newhall Auditorium plans have been reviewed and are in revision
- Old Orchard plans were DSA approved but have been resubmitted because we found a way to receive additional funding, if available, with some room design changes
- Plans for Peachland School are being prepared for submittal in early February
- All plans should be out of DSA by early spring

Amin Salari described the post-DSA process of packaging jobs, soliciting proposals (at least three), checking proposals, and setting the Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) based on the final negotiated proposal. This takes 30-45 days.

Mrs. Wolcott also reported that

- All Measure E technology projects have been completed (SMART boards, wireless, devices). VOIP is not done and PA systems are being approached on a site-by-site basis.
- Irrigation and EMS control projects have not been started because we are now able to move them away from Measure E funding and get them done with Prop 39 energy efficiency funding.

FISCAL REPORT – BUDGET REVISIONS

The full report that was provided to members is incorporated in these minutes. Mrs. Wolcott walked members through the school-by-school expenditure status. While the current total project costs exceed the total issuance by approximately \$2 million, Mrs. Wolcott pointed out areas of potential saving and expenditures that have come in under contingency budget numbers that will help to narrow or close the gap. Irrigation and EMS controls referenced above are an example of this type of savings. Mrs. Wolcott also provided members with a status report on potential state match funding that might have extended the reach of our Measure E projects. The Governor has proposed a whole new approach to school construction and matching funds may not be available. The district continues to submit applications for funding.

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW

In response to a question raised in September, Mrs. Wolcott provided an overview of work completed by the district's Technology Committee that included "priority standards" for students and professional development for staff. All teachers have been surveyed to determine ongoing training needs. Assistant Superintendent Jeff Pelzel will attend the March COC meeting to describe student proficiency and further professional development efforts.

FUTURE MEETINGS

March 9, 2015 – 6:45 PM meeting at the District Office. Annual Performance and Financial Audits will be presented for COC review.

May 11, 2015 – 5:30 PM meeting at Newhall School to tour project and hold meeting.

There were no public comments.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Caroline Jackson, Acting Chairperson