

INDEPENDENT CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
OF THE SANTEE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Minutes

Members Present: Cary Schaffner, Chris Cate, Cynthia Avery, Dr. Tim Glover, Eid Fakhouri, Gina Jackson, Jim Montague, Kai Ramer, Rick Weeks, Stacey LoMedico

Attendees Present: Bill Clark, Dr. Lis Johnson, Christina Becker, Dianne El-Hajj, Nancy Stasch

No alternates were present. Rob McNelis and Beth Selby (Alternate) were excused

- 1) **Established a quorum of 7 members in attendance to begin the meeting.**
- 2) **Call to Order at 6:10. Presented handouts and their placement into ICOC binders.**
- 3) **Reviewed Minutes of May 2, 2007. Gina Jackson motioned to approve. Seconded by Rick Weeks. Motion approved.**
- 4) **No public comments addressed.**
- 5) **Christina Becker addressed the draft of the bylaws.** She explained how after further research by the District's legal council, the 700 form was not required by law. Legal council suggested Attachment "A", the Ethics Policy Statement would be adequate to cover conflict of interest. Bill Clark asked if there were any concerns or comments. Discussion was made regarding member terms, 1 year vs. 2 year terms. Christina explained excused and unexcused absences and removal of members due to 2 consecutive unexcused absences. Christina spoke on needs for only one organization meeting each year. Stacey questioned structure of meetings & board appointments. Eid inquired of the School District's fiscal year-end date of June 30, 2007. Christina explained how future meetings would be held in the ERC Board room. Meeting in the Rio Seco Media was a good way to show how school improvements were needed since it is an excellent case example. Christina spoke on the need to change the 6.2 of the bylaws to *attendance area* because Pepper Drive School was located in El Cajon. Eid spoke on "Break-Out" tasks and use of sub-committees. Chris explained that it depends on the size of the bond and District. Christina added that Santee is a smaller bond as Chris stated and membership could be as small as 7 members. Chris recommended doing Ad-Hock with committees meetings as the need arose. Dr. Johnson spoke on a mutual meeting that will be attended by both the School Board and the ICOC members with guest speaker's from the Taxpayer's Association covering ICOC Best Practices. Meeting date tentatively scheduled for August 21, 2007, from 6:00 to 6:45 pm, to be confirmed.
- 6) **Christina addressed the election of officers.** Stacey LoMedico motioned to elect Eid Fakhouri to be Chair for 1st term. Dr. Glover seconded. Motion approved. Eid motioned to elect Gina Jackson as Vice-Chair. Jim Montague seconded. Motion approved. Chris made himself available to all members for any questions they may have on ICOC committees in general because he does research and analysis all day long for the Taxpayer's Association. Chris is in the process of reviewing all current ICOC's in San Diego County and checking their compliance requirements.

- 7) **Eid took over charge of the meeting.** Eid asked for volunteers to accept a one year first term. Volunteers were Jim Montague, Dr. Tim Glover, Chris Cate, and Cynthia Avery. All other members shall be a 2-year term.
- 8) **Eid make a recommendation to accept the Bylaws as modified and to go back to Board for approval.** Chris added to have it come back to the ICOC for final acceptance. Eid recommended modification in language in Section 10. Discussion followed with amendments initiated.
- 9) **Dr. Johnson inquired of Chris Cate regarding bond funds** being a portion of a total program and the ICOC oversight. Board has supported modernization projects with matching funds. How long before the funds run out and the ICOC disbands? Chris is concerned with finishing any projects even partially bond funded with ICOC oversight. Christina responded by stating that any project started with funds from bond or matching grants is considered part of the ICOC's venue/oversight. Any projects that are funded with other funding will not be under the ICOC blanket. Therefore, when the projects are finished with these funds, the ICOC is no longer needed. Christina spoke on the Colbi "Account Ability" Software and how the ICOC will be presented with bond accounting reports with this software. She explained how the school fiscal year will not necessarily be the fiscal year of the projects and this accounting software is very good for ICOC reporting. Eid proposes to modify language in bylaws in Section 11 to change the wording from *or* to *and*.
- 10) **Bill Clark discusses the Deferred Maintenance report.** He went over the Facilities Review report from 2005 and tied it in with the Five-Year plan. Chris spoke on Deferred Maintenance or replacement costs. Dr. Johnson stated to Taxpayer that we would not use any bond funds for Deferred Maintenance. Deferred Maintenance will only come from the General Fund. Stacey expressed that Deferred Maintenance would automatically be lowered because of the Modernization schedule and timelines. Dr. Johnson suggested revisions to the annual Deferred Maintenance 5-year plan because of the bond program. Chris responded that the Deferred Maintenance schedule will change and fluctuate. Deferred Maintenance needs to be scheduled properly to ensure bond funds don't replace Deferred Maintenance. Cary spoke on how lighting upgrades have been proven to improve children's learning abilities. Bill spoke on how there will be no reductions in Deferred Maintenance funding. Also, that State funding requires us to increase our match restricted maintenance funding from 2% to 3% annually.
- 11) **Christina presented the draft newsletter.** Recommendations were made and incorporated.
- 12) **Christina discusses the Modernization Planning Matrix** sheet and the Power Point Presentation handouts. Eid asks when the Bond dollars will begin to be spent. Bill responded the first bond sale was completed May 18, 2007. Christina stated that they have already begun with the Architects and Engineering planning costs currently under way. Chris asked if we could have a spending schedule by next meeting and a future tour of school facilities.
- 13) **Adjourn** at 8:00 p.m. Next meeting in ERC Board Room on September 5, 2007 at 6:00 p.m.