

Building Excellence II Levy Oversight Committee
Meeting Notes, November 17, 2005
Stanford Center, Room 2765, 7:30a - 9:30a

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Joey Ing
Ron Jelaco, Acting Chair
Mark Melroy
Karin Nyrop

District Staff

Don Gillmore
Kathy Johnson
Julie Krick
Fred Stephens

Heery International Staff

Donald King, DKA
Roxann Robinson
Ralph Rohwer

Members Absent

David Hudd
Ed Peters

School Board Directors

Sally Soriano

EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD

MINUTES APPROVAL FOR AUGUST 12, SEPTEMBER 9, AND OCTOBER 14, 2005 MEETINGS (7:45A – 8:15A)

Meeting notes were approved.

FACILITIES MASTER PLAN (FMP) UPDATE AND BUILDING CONDITIONS SURVEY UPDATE, KATHY JOHNSON

(Handouts: printout of PowerPoint, Facilities Master Plan and Levy Planning, School Board Work Session, November 9, 2005; letter from Tom Veith, not dated)

Discussion comments on PowerPoint presentation on FMP/levy planning:

- Kathy briefly reviewed the PowerPoint presentation.
- Kathy reported that the community meeting on the FMP was advertised in local papers, the district web site, and through the PTSA board. \$20,000 was spent on advertising and three people came.
- Sally: The Board is struggling with how to get community input and what the right approach is to get people interested.
- There are 57,000 school-age children in Seattle. Only 10% of households in Seattle have school-age children. The District's market share is 75%; 47,000 kids. Given that there is strong public support for schools, levies are passed by people without children.
- City planning proposals do not accommodate children. Single family homes are being replaced with condos and townhouses that are not affordable for families with children.
- Because of prior commitments, and projects deferred from the previous two BEX levies, plus replacing of synthetic fields, there will only be approximately \$150M available for new projects. Deferred maintenance, water piping, and indoor-air-quality issues also affect what the levy is used for.
- Committee: Policy doesn't interest people, and the public doesn't connect the FMP with school closure. Make the FMP a political issue to get people's interest. Make all the connections for the public and clarify the impact on the individual.

Discussion comments on Planning Assumptions, Principles, and Classifications

- Planning assumptions are values and ideas assumed to be true. Planning principles are the criteria used to develop projects.

- At the work session, Director Darlene Flynn suggested using preservation as criteria along with educational needs. Sally: Darlene wanted preservation to be used as first criteria if it didn't impede educational needs.
- The current arrangement with the Landmarks Board allows Landmarks to consider academics in their interpretation. This was negotiated between the District and the Landmarks board. Also negotiated is that District buildings have a 10-year window for nomination rather than five-year.
- Essential interim sites: The recommendation is to hold certain buildings in a ready state for interim sites. The suggested buildings are Boren, Hughes, Magnolia, and McDonald.

SOUTH SHORE RECOMMENDATIONS, DON GILLMORE (The Committee already received the architect's preliminary designs for the six options).

- Option 6a was approved at the Board meeting last night.
- Design will begin on the New School and South Lake HS in January. South Lake HS construction would begin in 2007 for occupancy in 2008. Construction of a preK-8 would begin in 2007. School Design Teams will begin in January.
- If the levy doesn't pass South Lake HS would still be built and with \$2M of repairs the South Shore building would last for another few years.
- A new agreement will be negotiated with the Sloan Foundation. The building will be built to District standards for classroom use. The Sloan Foundation currently funds \$11,000 per student with a ratio of seven students per adult.
- The 2001 levy language was not descriptive about what program was to go in to South Shore, only that the building was to be readapted. The staff recommendation was to use it for middle school seats.
- The possibility was raised that this recommendation might open the District to charges of mismanagement because the resolution is not what was originally intended by the levy. It was felt that the current solution is not an obstacle as long as the District can articulate the reasons and the decision-making process. All the groups concerned are very pleased with this resolution. Because the levy language was vague, these groups all felt they should have a piece of this project. They were all very pleased with the result at last night's Board meeting. The new solution focuses on educational needs
- Kathy Johnson will be working with the World School on their new location.
- Karin would like an update at each Committee meeting on where the World School is going to be located. The current debate about the location is based on the delivery model of a bilingual orientation center (BOC). If Academics decides this is to be a full-year program or a K-12 program, it will affect where the program is located. Initially, it was thought the Old John Hay building was going to be remodeled for the program.

NEW ORG CHART FOR BEX PROGRAM

- Fred reported that Don is now in charge of the BEX II program and is the executive on all the projects. Heery has now been moved into "first chair".
- At this time, the capital director position has been put on hold until the levy vote in 2007.

Meeting started, 8:45a

Meeting adjourned, 9:30a

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