

**Building Excellence II Levy Oversight Committee
Meeting Notes, February 9, 2007
Stanford Center, Room 2750, 8:30a - 10:30a**

ATTENDANCE:
Members Present
Mark Melroy
Karin Nyrop
Ed Peters

District Staff
Don Gillmore
Julie Krick
Fred Stephens

Heery International Staff
Ralph Rohwer

Guest

Members Absent

Board Directors
Sally Soriano

MINUTES APPROVAL FOR AUGUST 11, SEPTEMBER 8, AND OCTOBER 5, 2006 MEETINGS

All the minutes were approved.

- A discussion took place on the cost of restoration and the City Landmarks ordinance. Mark and Karin suggested tracking the cost of restoration expenses, even for one project, so that the true cost of restoration is visible. This information would also inform the school board.
- Director Soriano: The School Board policy is to do historic preservation whenever possible, but academic need is the priority.

UPDATE ON FEBRUARY 6 ELECTION RESULTS

- Don Gillmore discussed the difference between validating a bond and a levy. The approval ratings for each were very high and a good indication that citizens support the school district. BEX I took two years and four elections to pass. Since then the BEX levies and bonds have passed. Successful completion of BEX I evidently convinced voters that the district could deliver a large, complex construction program.
- Schools First, a group of volunteers that do a very professional job, ran the election campaign. They have not lost a campaign for the district since they began in 1995. This campaign did have a small faction of "noisy" detractors.
- There is once again a full-time district capital community liaison, Eleanor Trainor, and she is developing an information program to keep the community informed.
- The Committee recommends inviting Melissa Westbrook to the April meeting to present a short presentation of her position. The Committee recognizes it is important to manage expectations of what this Committee can do and what will result from her presentation.

UPDATE ON BOARD OPERATIONS COMMITTEE APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED NEW-MEMBER CANDIDATES

- The school board Operations Committee approved six new members for this Committee, renamed the BEX Programs Oversight Committee. Fred reviewed the new members and the process. The new members will start at the March 9 meeting.
- Ed Peters said he would provide short-term continuity but would be happy to have a new chair appointed.
- Fred will send the new-member terms that are being suggested.

DISCUSSION OF ORIENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

The goal of the orientation is to describe the role of the committee and create a foundation that members can build on.

- Build a collective vision
- Historical presentation beginning from BEX I.

- Explain the long-term plan of 3-year cycle of levies that will create a predictable revenue stream in order to eventually affect every building in the district. That this vision is working 12 years later is something that needs to be celebrated and discussed.
- An explanation of what district staff does and the decision-making process involved in capital levies, including how the construction management (CM) firm, Heery International, the School Board, and BTA fit in. Ralph Rohwer, Heery, invites Committee members to Wednesday meetings at Heery to gain a perspective on how the district and the CM work together.
- School board perspective.
- BEX III projects and how they were selected.
- Suggestions for a site tour: a sampling of new buildings and historic renovations, a comparison between Roosevelt and Garfield, and BEX III sites.
- Review monthly report.
- Send information out ahead of time.

SOUTH LAKE HS CONTRACT

- Award time for the contract is being compressed to avoid potential high escalation. The Board has agreed to approve for introduction the concept of the contract without knowing the contractor or the bid amounts until the action Board meeting. Some of the issues are materials escalation and shortage of skilled laborers. The last is becoming a serious problem that is not yet being addressed by the industry.
- The teen-parenting program is now an alternate in the bid. The program is being evaluated by the chief academic officer (CAO) and may not end up at South Lake. It is currently at John Marshall.
- A facilities summit has been organized for the specific purpose of coordinating facilities utilization and academic program needs for the short term and the long term. The first one is February 20.

PROJECT UPDATES

- Cleveland: The project is going well and will finish right on budget. The timeline is very tight for moving.
- Garfield: Problems with the existing concrete slab are being addressed. The flooring at Garfield was tested but the problem doesn't exist everywhere.
- Roosevelt: Negotiations are almost complete. There are still mechanical problems that will take a long time to fix.
- South Shore and Hamilton will be completed under BEX III. They are on track.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- None

NEXT AGENDA, MARCH 9

- Executive session