

SAN MARINO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
7-11 ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 18, 2010
Amended Version 9-1-10

1. Call to Order

Dr. Gary Woods called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

2. Introduction

Dr. Woods introduced members of the 7-11 Advisory Committee, the Board Representative and visitors to the meeting.

Committee members present were: Mustapha Baha, Karla Domier, Greg Forgatch, Isaac Hung, Vanessa Koo, Kevin McDonnell, Rary Simmons, Steve Talt, and Jerry Wang. Board Members present were: Chris Norgaard and Joseph Chang. Also present was legal counsel, Lindsay Thorson of Atkinson, Andelson, Loya, Ruud & Romo.

3. Committee Process/Tasks

Ms. Thorson briefly described the committee processes, tasks and formation criteria for the committee. She also reviewed the committee duties, committee tasks, goals, Brown Act guidelines and options, and choices associated with level of recommendation of committee. She defined the committee process, and goals.

Ms. Thorson described the Conflict of Interest memorandum within the committee's packet of information. She answered the question "What is 7-11"? Ms. Thorson explained the reasoning and rationale. She also explained the information on the Brown Act, which was also provided to the committee in their packet of information. Ms. Thorson emphasized "open meeting" and communication methods. She reminded the Committee to be open in their communication and to discuss topics at their open meetings, rather than outside of the meetings. Ms. Thorson also answered questions on the clarification of the Brown Act guidelines and communication outside of meetings. She also offered help with legal questions.

4. District Strategic Plan

Dr. Woods pointed out the District's current strategic plan which is in the process of being updated.

5. Budget Update

Ms. Boucher provided an update on the District's Budget, noting how fortunate SMUSD is to have received donations through the Refuse to Lose Campaign. She provided an update on student enrollment, ADA and revenue limit funding. The total district budget is \$27.5M and SMUSD is the second smallest unified school district in LA County. She also noted that the District is not "out of the woods" as its cash position remains critical and continual monitoring is ongoing.

6. Maps

Ms. Boucher reviewed the maps and answered questions regarding the District and school maps. Committee members requested to receive information on the square footage, value, and lease terms for the Hill-Harbison House.

7. Enrollment

Dr. Woods and Ms. Boucher reviewed the enrollment report and trends. Dr. Woods noted that only 10% of the total enrollment are inter-district transfers and noted that the majority of those students are children of SMUSD or City staff members. Committee members commented on the enrollment trends and Ms. Boucher explained the cohort-survival method used for enrollment projections. The District is projected to lose approximately 278 students over the next five years.

Mr. Forgatch commented on the capacity and cost of upgrading Stoneman. There was a discussion on increase in enrollment, capacity, maps, and open space/classes. The Committee requested information on how much it costs to maintain classrooms. Another question asked was if there was a survey taken on students who attend private schools. Mr. Nogaard noted that the Academics Advisory Committee has prepared a partial study. Mr. Forgatch asked what the trend is of District students vs. inter-district transfer students.

Ms. Simmons asked about the low performing school opt-out program and the ability to control enrollment/open enrollment. Dr. Woods noted the square foot calculation. There are 27 per classroom. The capacity of Stoneman is 350. Dr. Woods stated that there is enough space for a universal preschool.

8. Stoneman Information

Mr. McDonnell questioned the historical significance. Ms. Thorson clarified that Stoneman is eligible to be found historically significant in accordance with state and federal guidelines.

9. Stoneman Facts

Mr. Forgatch stated that it would cost more to restore the Stoneman Site if it is historically significant. Ms. Boucher reviewed the Stoneman Master Plan and noted the estimated costs, prepared by Carmichael-Kemp Architects in June 2008, for modernization and demolition and rebuilding of the Stoneman Site.

10. Next Steps

Ms. Thorson reviewed the list of priorities developed by the 7-11 Advisory Committee. Mr. McDonnell asked about the purpose of the 7-11 Advisory Committee. Ms. Thorson stated that this committee was formed to look, specifically, at Stoneman. There was committee discussion and there were

questions regarding the charge. Mr. Talt stated that the Stoneman Advisory Committee looked at the best use of the facility.

Mr. Talt made a motion to declare the Stoneman Site as a surplus property, seconded by Ms. Domier. Approved unanimously.

11. Goal of Committee

Why are we here? Mr. Forgatch noted that the next possible motion is to adopt the Stoneman Task Force Committee recommendation. The Board will decide on the sale, lease, etc. The recommendation of the Stoneman Task Force has been approved by the Board. Mr. Forgatch recommends the sale or lease of the property for the highest and best use, in accordance with Stoneman Task Force recommendation. Mr. Talt would like to summarize their information. A question was asked regarding declaring property surplus. There was a discussion regarding the City – is it surplus for educating our children? Ms. Thorson described the second meeting/public hearing declaring surplus and then use (lease, sale, etc.). There will be a report to the Board based on information reviewed and analyzed – here is what we recommend.

Surplus Property:

Mr. Baha motioned to declare that the property as surplus. Ms. Thorson advised that the committee could recommend that Stoneman School be sold, leased or otherwise disposed of with the highest and best use.

Mr. Talt made a motion to amend action to surplus for educational purposes, seconded by Mr. McDonnell. Approved unanimously.

Mr. Talt made a motion to negotiate a long-term lease or sale of Stoneman, with first priority to the City of San Marino, second priority to a philanthropic organization, and third priority for a residential development, seconded by Ms. Domier. Approved unanimously.

12. Other Business

The next 7-11 Committee meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room. A Public Hearing will be held.

13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Julie Boucher
Assistant Superintendent, Business Services