

Date: January 14, 2020

Purpose: Citizen-Led Oversight Committee (CLOC) – First Meeting

Committee Member Attendees:

Kim Fleming, Derrick Coaxum, Rich Tritschler, David Ames, Ray Warco, Ted Barber, Ron Groteluschen, Mike McNally

Beaufort County School District Attendees:

Dr. Frank Rodriguez, Robert Oetting, Alexander Marshall, Carol Crutchfield, Jim Foster, Brandy Majors, Trudy Unsworth

Guest Attendees: Rachel Jones, Island Packet

Meeting Minutes

The meeting agenda was passed out to committee members prior to the beginning of the meeting.

1. Superintendent Frank Rodriguez opened the meeting with a welcome and acknowledgement of thanks to the committee members in attendance. Dr. Rodriguez advised that the role of the committee is to monitor all referendum-related expenditures to ensure that BCSD is spending these funds in the manner that was stated in the election ballot. The CLOC will make quarterly reports to the Board of Education and the public. Dr. Rodriguez advised that the biggest value of the committee to BCSD and the community is its independence from BCSD.
2. Jim Foster spoke to the CLOC regarding the FOIA and how it will relate to CLOC meetings and correspondence.
3. Carol Crutchfield presented a brief history of bond referenda in Beaufort County, including a comparison of voting results from the past three referenda. She reviewed the Community Project Review Committee's activities and its crucial role in the development of the list of referendum projects. Ms. Crutchfield advised that the committee's work in educating the community was instrumental in the successful passing of the referendum.
4. Robert Oetting presented an overview of the schedule of referendum projects. He advised that the River Ridge Academy and May River High School additions are currently under way, and nine schools will be closed this summer to accommodate referendum-related construction activity. Mr. Oetting reported that architects for all projects have been selected, and BCSD is currently in the process of selecting contractors and consulting services to coordinate the projects. Mr. Oetting also discussed the difference between referendum funding and 8% funding. He said that Tonya Crosby, Chief Financial Officer, will be at the next meeting and can give more specific details regarding 8% funding. Mr. Oetting also explained the flow of information to and from CLOC. He asked that all CLOC member questions and request be funneled through a single point of contact in the Operations department (Trudy Unsworth) for tracking purposes.

5. Mr. Oetting and Alexander Marshall gave updates and answered questions on the River Ridge Academy (RRA) and May River High School (MRHS) projects.
6. Election of committee officers was discussed. Ted Barber was nominated for Chair. He said that he appreciated the nomination and would consider it and inform the committee at the next meeting whether he would accept. It was decided to table the election of officers until the next meeting, when all members could be present.
7. The committee discussed future meeting dates. It was decided to hold meetings on the first Wednesday of each month, at the same time and location, with the next meeting date set for February 5, 2020 at 6:00pm. It was also decided to try to keep the meetings at one and one-half hours, with consideration for more time as the meetings progress.
8. The committee discussed the agenda for the next meeting. It was decided that there would be two main agenda items:
 - a. Detailed presentation on complete process for the referendum construction and how the Operations and Finance departments manage the process, schedule and budget
 - b. Presentation on how the referendum projects and CLOC activities will be communicated to the public and key stakeholders
9. Prior to adjournment of meeting, it was decided that CLOC members would email any questions they would like answered to Trudy Unsworth (Operations department), who would compile the questions into a list. The questions will be answered at the next meeting. Also, the committee requested that a list of CLOC members and their email addresses be sent to all members as soon as possible. The committee also requested that the presentation slide with past referenda voting results and the referendum master schedule be sent to them.