

2016 Facilities and Technology Task Force Minutes

January 7, 2016

Board Room, Administration Building – 6:00 p.m.

Attendees:

Members: Matthew Arend, Earnest Burke, Rebecca Egelston Caso, Rick Cinclair, Rodney Davenport, Ken Gagliano, Jim Hirsch, Ken Hutchenrider, Marshall Jackson, Annika Little, Bill McLaughlin, Dr. Raj Menon, Pat Miner, Fred Moses, Amy Nelson, Alex Plotkin, Rev. Patrick Price, Julie Richard, Corie Rubenstein, Doug Shockey, Karen Stanton, Ryan Steele, John Teiber, Janet Weissman

District officials and others: Dr. Brian Binggeli, Steve Fortenberry, Dr. Jim Wussow, Dr. Kary Cooper, Karla Oliver, Dan Armstrong, Linda Madon, Kathy Waskow, Juan Ramos, Tony Pearson, Monica Sharapata, Mary Ann Lewis

Opening Remarks– Rebecca Egelston Caso, Chair

The eighth Plano ISD Facilities and Technology Task Force meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Rebecca Egelston Caso, Chair. Rebecca thanked the committee for their attendance and those committee members who attended the Public Hearing on December 17th.

Rebecca then turned the meeting over to Dr. Binggeli for his opening remarks.

Comments – Dr.Brian Binggeli

Dr. Binggeli reiterated Rebecca's thank you to the committee and stated that we have a very short and focused agenda this evening. The Board has understood what the committee recommended while keeping an eye on fiscal responsibility and instructional excellence. There is some sentiment from the Board to keep the Bond Recommendations under \$500M, and staff will be presenting options to use other financing sources to do so.

Dr. Binggeli turned the meeting back over to Rebecca Egelston Caso.

Rebecca asked the committee to refer to the Summary of the Proposed Bond Recommendations document in their packets. This summary is what came back from the Board with a few revisions. Rebecca asked the committee to take a look at the list and asked if anyone wanted to comment. After comments and discussion, Rebecca said she will reopen the floor to move forward on current recommendations.

Karla Oliver will then be speaking and addressing the tools that will be used to get information to the public and answer any questions from the committee concerning using these tools.

Public Hearing Comments

Rebecca then opened the floor for comments regarding the Public Hearing. Several members made comments on what the speakers at the Public Hearing said, with most of the discussion centering around the fine arts venue.

General Comments from Committee

Rebecca then moved on to discussion regarding the final list of projects to recommend to the Board. Several questions were asked with most of the discussion centering around the six turf fields the Task Force had added to the list which were subsequently removed by The Board.

Rebecca called for a vote on adding the \$4.6M for the six additional turf projects back to the recommended project list. The vote was 14 in favor, 4 opposed and 2 abstentions.

Ken Hutchenrider made a motion to recommend to the School Board that the current list (including the \$4.6M in turf) be approved, in the total amount of \$524,725,000.

Dr. Raj Menon seconded the motion.

Following additional discussion, the motion carried with 18 in favor and 3 opposed.

Rebecca said that the Board had also asked for feedback on whether to have a single proposition or multiple propositions.

Following lengthy discussion, a vote was taken with 15 supporting a single proposition ballot and 7 supporting a multiple proposition ballot.

Rebecca then turned the meeting over to Karla Oliver.

Karla thanked the committee for all of their comments, which helped to guide the communication department in their role. Karla stated that the message needs to be very concise so that nothing gets lost in the translation. Keep in mind, this is not a marketing plan but an educating plan, “Educate vs. Persuade.” It is the role of the communications department to educate not advocate. The district Web site will have many posts and district administration will go anywhere they are invited to speak. Karla said when the tools become available the committee members will be notified. Karla said Communications will be glad to assist any committee member in communicating to the public. She also said that the district has engaged a firm to conduct a survey of potential voters about various components of the recommendation to help The Board as it makes its final decision.

The question was raised by the committee about employees informing and not advocating. Karla explained that what you say and do at school should only be about informing. What an employee advocates on their own time is a different matter.

Rebecca, Steve, and Karla thanked Mary Ann and Monica for the “behind the scenes” work for the committee meetings. Steve also thanked his staff, Linda Madon, Executive Director of Financial Services, Kathy Waskow, Director of Construction and Special Revenue Accounting, Juan Ramos, Executive Director of Facility Services, and Tony Pearson, Assistant Director of Facility Services.

Discussion of Next Steps/Closing Remarks-Rebecca Egelston Caso

Rebecca said this was the last official meeting of the 2016 Bond Task Force and the committee’s report will be presented on January 12th. January 19th is a special called Board Meeting for further discussion of the bond recommendations. The Board will decide to call an election on February 2nd. These are all open meetings and the committee is welcome to attend. Rebecca stated that she was amazed at the participation of this committee and thanked the cabinet for their attendance at the meetings as well as their support during this process. Rebecca adjourned the meeting at 8:13 p.m.