



LYNWOOD UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
11321 Bullis Road, Lynwood, California 90262
Phone Number: 310-886-1600 Fax Number: 310-608-7483

CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE-MEASURE K MEETING

Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956 and Education Code Section 35144, the Regular Meeting of the Citizens Oversight Committee will be held on Thursday, July 25, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. to conduct its business meeting at the Education Center, 11321 Bullis Road, Board Room B-105, B-106, Lynwood, California, 90262.

AGENDA

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

Paulette Bradley
Jackie Espinoza
Edwin Hernandez
Eugene Jackson
Edith Ornelas
Vincent Osby
Mayra Scott

C. Approval of July 25, 2013 Agenda

D. Approval of April 25, 2013 COC Meeting Minutes

E. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

No action or discussion is permitted on any item not included on the posted agenda per GC§ 54954.2 (a). No action may be taken and no discussion held on items raised by the public except as provided in GC§54954.2 (b).

PLEASE SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT FORMS PRIOR TO START OF MEETING Per Board Policy #9323 Three (3) Minutes May be Allotted to Each Speaker to address **all their items**. If translation services are required, please state that, and an additional one (1) Minute will be allotted. **Approach the lectern and give your name and address.**

The public has the opportunity to address the Board on any item appearing on the agenda or not on the agenda. Persons wishing to address the Board are asked to fill out a ***Public Comment Form*** located at the sign-in area, and submit the completed form to the administrative assistant prior to start of meeting.

Those who have a group concern are encouraged to select a spokesperson to address the Board. A copy of the full agenda is available for view at the Reception Desk area of the district office at 11321 Bullis Rd., Lynwood, California, 90262. Also, at the district web site: <http://www.lynwood.k12.ca.us>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access the Board meeting room or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact Assistant Superintendent's Office at 310-886-1607. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure Accessibility to the Board meeting.

F. ACTION ITEMS

- Introduction of COC Member – Edwin Hernandez
- Election of Officers
- Communication: District website, newsletter, etc.
- Tentative 2013-2014 COC Meeting Schedule

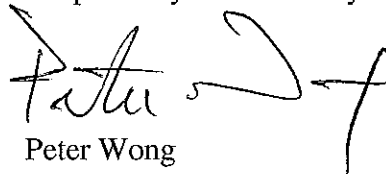
G. REPORTS

- Facility Planning and Construction Projects Update - by Del Terra
- Financial Report – by Mr. Peter Wong

H. FUTURE AGENDA

I. ADJOURNMENT

Respectfully Submitted by:



Peter Wong
Chief Business Official

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First Meeting of the Citizens' Oversight Committee
Thursday, April 25, 2013

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Board Room, Education Center
11321 Bullis Road
Lynwood, California 90262

CALL TO ORDER

The first meeting of the Citizens Oversight Committee for Measure K, held on Thursday, April 25, 2013, was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Mr. Gudiel Crosthwaite, Director of Student Reform. Also present were LUSD Chief Business Official Peter Wong and Sr. Executive Assistant to the Supt. Gickee Ormeo.

ROLL CALL by Mr. Crosthwaite:

Paulette Bradley
Jackie Espinoza
Edwin Hernandez – *absent due to an out-of-town business meeting*
Eugene Jackson
Edith Ornelas
Vincent Osby
Mayra Scott

PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS – None

BUSINESS

Atty. David Canoscha, legal counsel for Measure K, referred to the governing bylaws for the Citizens Oversight Committee and explained to the committee the offices/positions that need to be established. The committee should elect a Chairperson and a Vice-Chairperson. The Chairperson will be the spokesperson/voice of the committee. He/She will run the meetings and work with staff to put together the agenda. The Vice-chair only steps in when the Chairperson is absent.

The committee can choose to elect a Secretary or opt for a District staff to be assigned to this role. Mr. Peter Wong assured the committee that the District can and will provide for a secretary. The committee unanimously decided for the District to assign an Administrative Assistant for this purpose.

Introduction of Committee Members

- ***Ms. Edith Ornelas*** – grew up in the District and has four children attending LUSD schools. Ms. Ornelas has volunteered for the District for almost 10 years now. She was an Advisor for DELAC; runs the meetings for DAC; and, President for CAC for Special Education. Ms. Ornelas maintains good relationships and keeps open communications with parents, the Superintendent, and the City council. She actively campaigned for the Measure K bond. Ms. Ornelas said she is a positive thinker, focuses on what can be done for the students of LUSD, and keeps herself actively involved in the schools and the community.
- ***Ms. Jackie Espinoza*** was born and raised in Lynwood. She has children attending Mark Twain Elementary and Firebaugh High School. She has been an active parent volunteer at the school sites and at the District office. She is currently a member of the District's Personnel Commission.
- ***Ms. Paulette Bradley*** represents the seniors in the committee. Though not born in Lynwood, she has been a resident of the city for the past 33 years. Since her retirement 11 years ago as a

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grievance officer, Ms. Bradley enjoys being involved in the community, especially as member of the city's Personnel Commission. She has joined social clubs, teaches sewing in the Senior Club, and runs the Travel Club. As a homeowner, Ms. Bradley was interested to be part of this committee to have first-hand knowledge of how taxpayers' money is being used. As a member of the COC, she will ensure that accusations made by critics of the bond, as well as what led to Compton College's loss of accreditation, will not happen at this District.

- **Mr. Vincent Osby** attended Lindbergh ES, Hosler Middle School and Lynwood High School during his student years. He graduated from the University of Illinois and established his business in Lynwood. He was contacted by James Bishop and was requested to be actively involved and to help the city grow. Mr. Osby also campaigned for Measure K and, by being a member of this committee, would like to ensure the funds are used for the right purposes. He would like to see Lynwood become as beautiful as its neighboring cities.
- **Ms. Mayra Scott** attended Lynwood High School and Vista Continuation High School, and then pursued Criminal Justice at Westwood College. She currently works as a Medical Assistant in a podiatrist office in San Pedro. Ms. Scott's child was a first grade student at Wilson ES. She said she didn't have a good experience during her child's first year at school and that the school was providing a poor quality education. She wants to help improve the schools and hopes to do this as a member of the COC.
- **Mr. Eugene Jackson** attended Washington ES and Lynwood HS. He graduated from the University of Oregon and came back to establish a non-profit organization in Lynwood. He saw the need to help kids academically and through sports. His goal is to help bring change towards making LUSD schools great, building morale, teaching sportsmanship, offering program (i.e., sports camp).

The committee deliberated on the term of office for the COC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and the frequency of meetings. The COC members decided to wait until the next meeting to elect a Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. They also decided to hold quarterly meetings during the 1st and 2nd year of the bond. Each meeting will be no more than an hour in length.

Atty. Canoscha, who is an expert in school bonds, further discussed with the committee how other neighboring Districts handle their bond measures, their governing bylaws, and what is expected of the COC as required by law and described in the Education Code and not by their local board.

The COC is not an advisory committee. They do not give the board advice on how to spend the funds. They simply oversee the spending of the bond money. The committee's agenda and the creation of it are governed by the Brown Act. There should be public notification of any and all deliberations. All business should be discussed in public; the committee cannot meet in closed session. The committee can only discuss items that are on the agenda. Accommodations can be made for a member to join via conference call. Advance notice should be given to staff to arrange for special accommodation, if necessary.

The COC's most important responsibility is to review the Measure K expenditures. They should expect to receive a printed report of how the money was spent and their specific sources. The committee should check if Measure K funds are spent accordingly by constantly referring back to what was stipulated and claimed in the Measure K ballot when it was presented to the community.

Specifically, Measure K funds should not be used for teachers' or administrators' salaries. Atty. Canoscha explained that the Attorney General described salaries which bonds can be used to pay for – that is, for employees working directly on bond-related functions/tasks.

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In response to Mr. Osby's inquiry, Atty. Canoscha explained that an employee who spends part of his workday attending to a Measure K project should be paid, for that amount of time, out of bond money. The regular work of this employee continues to be paid from District funds. Hence, proper and accurate recording of time is necessary.

Addressing Ms. Bradley's concern for potential lack of information or possible misuse of funds, Atty. Canoscha shared that 99.99% of the time, bond money is mostly spent lawfully. Issues that normally arise are often simply perception or a disagreement with how projects are given priority. Atty. Canoscha emphasized that the committee does not set priorities. The Board of Education is still the one who determines what projects should be considered important and urgent.

Atty. Canoscha reminded the committee to create a website to inform and update the public. The website should have a posting of the COC by-laws, list of projects, expenditure reports, minutes, etc. The law also requires the committee to submit an annual report. This report should include a formal accounting of the bond money. He encouraged the committee to peruse sample of annual reports of other Districts. Mr. Wong shared that the first audit report is due in June, but since nothing is done yet, it will be a short report. He also shared how it will be beneficial to have an outside auditor complete this work.

The committee learned that the District does not get all the bond money at the same time. \$16M is the first amount made available to the District. It will take years before the District sees the total amount of the bond expended.

Mr. Osby requested that the committee be given a list of the projects that were prioritized and identified by the Board of Education.

The committee members unanimously agreed to schedule the next meeting for July 25, 2013 at 6pm in Board Room B of the District Office. Mr. Wong reminded the committee that, between now and the next COC meeting, some projects would have already started. Hopefully some report and financial information will be made available at the next meeting.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:

- Election of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson
- Creation of Website
- Work Plan – line up of projects
- Schedule of future meetings
- Initial Expenditure Report

ADJOURNMENT:

The first COC meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Gudiel Crosthwaite

