

ROCHESTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting

February 7, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Attendance: Commissioner Cynthia Elliott (Chair), and Commissioner Mary Adams; Kenneth Bell, Tom Renauto, Tom Roger (RJSCB); Representative: Felix Jacobs, Board Staff: Jacqueline Morgan

Absent: Commissioner Melisza Campos

Commissioner Elliott called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. Minutes

Motion to approve the January Minutes was made by Commissioner Adams; seconded by Commissioner Elliott. **Adopted 2-0; with Commissioner Campos absent.**

II. Facilities Modernization Program Update

Mr. Kenneth Bell, Chair of the Rochester Joint Schools Construction Board (RJSCB), introduced Mr. Tom Renauto, Executive Director of the RJSCB, and Mr. Tom Roger, Program Director for Gilbane Construction Company.

Mr. Jacobs asked if financing for the work is in place, and if it is not in place, what is the expectation that it will be in place. Mr. Renauto stated that financing is in place. And, that currently, they are working under the bond proceeds that were approved back at the end of the summer/early fall by the City, \$29,000,000.00. They have started the work with Comida to finance the bonds for the project. That timeline puts them at a completion for bond sale of May 31, 2012.

Mr. Renauto stated that Phase 1A is nearing completion in design. These schools are No. 17, No. 50, Charlotte, and Franklin. They will be submitted to SED throughout the month of February. This will start the final approval from SED. School 58 will be submitted in April, followed by No. 28, which will be submitted in September.

Mr. Renauto noted that they are tracking of all of their diversity goals. They are keeping track of all professional service firms and all of the consultants; with all goals being exceeded.

Commissioner Elliott asked that the diversity goals be explained. Mr. Renauto stated that there is diversity plan that is part of the original master plan. They have a workforce participation of 20% minority and 6.9% female.

Commissioner Elliott requested that she be provided a breakdown the minority workers according to race, i.e. how many of the 20% minority workers are African American, what is the percentage. Mr. Renauto stated that he would provide that information to her tomorrow.

Building Advisory Committees are being organized at each school that is in Phase I. Commissioner Elliott asked if the committees have been helpful with implementing the designs; and how the committees were being utilized. Mr. Renauto stated the Building Advisory Committees have been very helpful in that they offer ideas that architects may not think of. They offered suggestions throughout the process that turned out to be helpful. And, in many cases they have improved the direction of what was included in the master plan to create a more meaningful project.

Commissioner Elliott asked if having an interim superintendent would impact the FMP Project. Mr. Roger stated that changing superintendents would have a significant impact on the plan in two ways. First, it would affect the swing space plan. For example, the swing space is either Jefferson or Freddie Thomas, because if the alternative high school happens, we wouldn't have the use of Jefferson, but would have the use of Freddie Thomas because the students there would be sent to either Marshall or Jefferson. It also affects 175 Martin St. because Monroe won't fit into 175 Martin St. as a full-size high school. The other significant impact is that East, Edison, Jefferson and Monroe will all be affected by the alternative high school decision. We will need to know how many students, what programs will be maintained at those high schools.

Commissioner Elliott stated that if the alternative school is approved, she would then need to request that the interim superintendent provide details on swing space and how the FMP will be impacted.

Commissioner Adams noted that she feels that the Board should have a work session to outline Board's position. She noted that she feels that

the Board needs clear direction and contingency plans with significant community input.

Mr. Roger stated that the Board has initiated a pre-apprenticeship training program to work in concert with the Bob Brown Construction Program to produce opportunities for people to sign up to qualify to participate as workers in the construction program.

Mr. Jacobs asked if preference would be given to city residents for this program. Mr. Bell indicated that this training program will be open to the community, city residents as well as county residents. Mr. Bell noted that there is a diversity officer on the Board whose responsibility it is to ensure that city residents, as well as county residents, are aware of the program. There is also an independent compliance officer to monitor the project to ensure building capacity to meet the diversity goals. There will be a very strong bias towards getting minorities into construction.

III. **Miscellaneous**

There was a consensus in the committee to schedule a Board trip to Albany to discuss items of concern within the district.

The committee agreed to invite the Parent Council to attend the March 13th CIGR Committee Meeting to give a presentation on transportation.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. was moved by Commissioner Elliott seconded by Commissioner Adams.

The next meeting of the Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee is scheduled to be held on **Wednesday, March 13, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.**