

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee

August 18, 2006

Minutes

Attendance: Commissioners Evans and Brennan; Commissioner Thompson arrived at 5:44 p.m.

Commissioner Evans convened the meeting at 5:30 p.m.

I. Facilities Modernization Program update

Rick Hannon, Chief of Special Projects and Intergovernmental Relations, reported that the District will be ready with the new enabling legislation should the State Legislature convene before December. He predicted that it is far more likely that the legislation will be submitted in January 2007 for an anticipated Spring 2007 approval. Legislation sponsors, Assemblyman Gantt and Senator Robach, have been very supportive and are ready to work with the District on the legislation. The administration is working on “talking points” regarding the Facilities Modernization Program for Board members. Mr. Hannon will forward them.

Commissioner Evans asked about cost. Mr. Hannon said the inevitable cost of inflation, and in construction particularly, will affect the program’s bottom line. Mr. Hannon is working very closely with the City on the program.

Action item: Talking points preparation, R. Hannon, following receipt of legislation wording from Harris Beach.

II. 2006-07 Legislative Agenda

Topics identified include facilities and pre-kindergarten funding. CIR would like to submit agenda to full BOE by October and host a Legislative Breakfast in October.

III: Fall Legislative Breakfast

Chairman Evans said these annual events are extremely productive. He suggested late October for a Saturday morning event, following the Board’s adoption of the Legislative Agenda. Mr. Hannon said the later the better. Commissioner Evans said he would ask fellow commissioners to hold Oct. 21 and Oct. 28 open.

IV. DC Lobby trip

Mr. Hannon met with representatives of Sens. Schumer and Clinton, Congresswoman Slaughter, the Department of Education, and the Council of Great City Schools. He described the trip as beneficial.

V. In-Albany Representation

Mr. Hannon is looking into the idea of having an Albany-based lobbyist to represent the District; this individual had worked for the District in the Spring of 2006 and represented an exceptional value. Mr. Hannon may be asking to present another contract, following some additional data-gathering, and will report back at a future meeting. Chairman Evans pointed out that the Board has made it clear that if the District is going to engage lobbyists, the Board wants specifics on how resources will be driven to the District. Commissioner Thompson said that if a contract is going to be proposed to CIGR for a recommendation to the full Board, that report should be submitted in advance of the CIGR meeting.

VI. Next meeting date

Wednesday, Sept. 13, 6 p.m.

VII. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Brennan, Second by Commissioner Thompson, approved at 6:25 p.m