

Community and Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting
March 10, 2006 8:30 a.m.
Minutes

Attendance: Commissioners Brennan, Evans, Garcia, and Thompson; Dr. Rivera; Ms. Kimberly Rohring; Ms. Linda Dunsmoor; Mr. Michael Looby and Mr. Rick Hannon

Commissioner Evans convened the meeting at 8:35 a.m.

Discussion:

Facilities Modernization Initiative

Consideration of resolution to contract with RMBDC Inc to aid the District with the minority and women owned business and workforce participation component.

Mr. Hannon stated that the proposed contract is for an amount not to exceed \$200,000 for six months. The firm has done similar projects. We are recommending to this the committee based on the advise of our local delegation and current project consultants. Additionally, upon reviewing Board policies and District practices, I would suggest that this is something we would want to pursue absent the external input. The upfront work would involved gaining an understanding of the project; developing a strategy, goals, plan; and assessing the labor market. After the plan is created, their work would involve monitoring. Previous clients include the Schenectady public schools, PaeTec Park, Renaissance Square.

Commissioner Thompson asked for more information on what kind of work is involved with this contract.

Mr. Hannon stated that he would provide written information in today's mail packets.

Commissioner Thompson asked how the contract terms compare with previous contracts that firm has had.

Ms. Rohring asked if there was an estimate for total service costs based on the firm's experience with Schenectady schools.

Commissioner Thompson stated that she wants to be comfortable that the District is "inside the ballpark" with the contract terms. She asked if this was the only company considered.

Mr. Hannon stated that they did not have answers to the questions regarding dollar amounts, but that they would make contact with the firm and Schenectady to provide this information to the committee.

Dr. Rivera stated that this company was recommended from several resources. He is not aware of anyone else locally that does this kind of work.

Commissioner Evans and Mr. Hannon concurred with this being the only local firm they were aware of that did this type of work.

Dr. Rivera further stated that this is the only company in Rochester that has come to his attention. It has a niche locally.

Mr. Looby stated that he anticipates there will be a number of issues during this particular project in which the District will require the services of people with particular expertise. He sited the contract the Board approved last month for specialized legal services associated with the project. He added that he anticipates there will be additional resolutions over the term of the project for particular expertise.

Motion to recommend resolution to the Board for consideration made by Commissioner Brennan, Seconded by Commissioner Thompson. Adopted 3-0.

Commissioner Garcia departed at 8:51 a.m.

Legislation

Mr. Looby shared a draft bill with the committee for its review and comment pertaining to state law governing school transportation and reimbursement for such.

Dr. Rivera stated that this proposal is an outgrowth of conversations he has had with the Parent Partnership Council. They suggested the District consider providing transportation for students more than 1.0 mile from school, rather than the current limit of 1.5 miles.

NOTE: State reimbursement is for 2.0 miles from school, so the District currently funds the cost of the difference between 2.0 and 1.5.

Mr. Looby asked members to provide him with comments and the draft and requested further discussion on an upcoming meeting agenda.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Commissioner Thompson, Seconded by Commissioner Brennan. Adopted 3-0 at 8:55 a.m.