

ATWATER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
JANUARY 10, 2006

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

There were not enough members to provide a quorum so there was no official meeting.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

There was no pledge.

III. ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The committee members present were: Dorothy Bizzini, Nelson Crabb, and Annette Heikkila. Also present were Melinda Hennes, Superintendent, Marisa Ploog, CPA, Assistant Superintendent/Business, and Allan Patterson, Director of Facilities and Transportation. Members absent were Barbara Dockery, Jim Murphy, Audrey Sumpter and John Thompson.

IV. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 11, 2005

Since there was not a quorum, no action was taken to approve the minutes from October 11, 2005. The Committee agreed it would be taken up at the next meeting.

VI. FACILITIES PROJECT UPDATE

Aileen Colburn School

Allan Patterson began by stating there are three issues yet to be dealt with before Aileen Colburn Modernization would be complete.

Carpet – bad installation. Needs complete change out of entire office complex. Allan stated the company will make it right by the AESD

Bells – the clocks aren't yet in sync. The company is working on it and is getting closer to synchronization. All clocks are centrally controlled by the master clock in the office.

Data drop issues – have data ports that need to be re-established.

Dorothy Bizzini then asked about the time frame for changing out the carpets. There was concern that classrooms would be disrupted but Allan reassured her by stating that only the office complex was affected which included a couple of small classrooms and the teachers' work area.

Thomas Olaeta Modernization was discussed next. Allan Patterson explained that the Thomas Olaeta project would begin next summer. Mark Holley, one of the architects with Architecnica, passed out Design Development Drawings of the project for the members of the Committee to look at. The District has approval with the Department of Education for this project and has just received the plans back from the Division of the State Architect so we are on schedule. Mark Holley stated that this would be about a \$1,000,000.00 project at approximately 22,800 sq feet. He stated that it would be similar to the modernization project at Aileen Colburn only slightly smaller. Mark Holley stated that we are waiting for all approvals and subsequently the go ahead from the District to advertise and solicit bids.

Dorothy Bizzini mentioned what a beautiful job Architecnica did with the Bellevue Modernization. Mark Holley praised the staff at Bellevue by stating how patient they had been considering the obstacles they faced and the set-backs they had. He said they must have seen the light at the end of the tunnel. Allan Patterson explained that at times there were as many as five different contractors at the site at one time because of the many different projects that fell under "modernization."

Annette Heikilla asked what the plans for the new school were. Superintendent Melinda Hennes said that on October 24, 2005, the Board asked that Architecnica create bid documents so that we could go to bid this summer with the intent to open the new school in the fall of 2007. Melinda stated that since then, there has been much discussion about the expressway that will probably run right through the middle of the playground which would negatively impact the playground and some facility space. The Friends of the Parkway is an organization made up of members of county and city builders, among others who are working with Cal Trans to find a pathway that will connect Highway 99 and Castle Air Force Base disrupting the fewest number of families between those two points while staying within the budget. The choice that falls below the budgeted amount is the favored pathway. This is the one that would run through the Atwater Elementary School District's playground. Pacific Union Homes is planning to develop a community i.e. shopping center, homes, a park, an aquatic area, etc. Pacific Union Homes is also a member of Friends of the Parkway and would like the district to consider switching plots of land. By doing so, the district would have less pedestrian and vehicular issues. Also, by switching plots of land, the district would not be faced with flooding issues that keeping the original property would entail. Melinda Hennes stated that Pacific Union would cover all of the costs of switching properties. This would affect the Avenue One School by putting off construction for another year.

Annette asked if there were any projects other than the new school that fell under the bond issue. Allan Patterson stated that Mitchell Senior needed a modernization. Annette asked about Elmer Wood. Melinda Hennes said that Elmer Wood had been done. Annette stated that she thought Elmer Wood was supposed to undergo enlargement of the cafeteria. Melinda said that would come under new school money, not modernization.

Annette asked if putting off until 2008 for the building of the Avenue One School would offset costs because of the way the building costs are going up. Allan brought up the fact that the site we currently own doesn't have water or sewer hookup capabilities. He stated that because Pacific Union Homes is building in that direction, water and sewer would likely be available, reducing costs related to a separate well and septic tank. This would be a big savings for the District. Allan Patterson pointed out that switching properties would be very helpful for student transportation as it would reduce student pedestrian hazards. Allan asked if there were any other issues. There were none. The Committee agreed that the next meeting would take place in the library at Thomas Olaeta on the second Tuesday in April.

The meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.