

Huntington Beach City School District
Facilities Advisory (“7-11”) Committee
Minutes of Meeting No. 3, May 15, 2019

1.1 Opening of Meeting:

1.1 Call to Order:

The third meeting of the Facilities Advisory (“7-11”) Committee was called to order by Chair Jill Hardy at 5:33 pm in the District Education Center Board Room located at 8750 Dorsett drive, Huntington Beach, CA 92646.

1.2 Roll Call:

Members Present were: Michelle Halligan; Chair Jill Hardy; Vice Chair Thorsten Hegberg; Joanna Lejniaks; Frank Mignano; Albert Munoz; Joshua Yang. Member absent was Kathy Colorado.

Others Present: Jerry Suich, Oxbridge Development, Inc., Facilitator; Brian Whitmore, BCA Architects; Jon Archibald, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services, HBCSD; Jimmy Lambos, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent, HBCSD.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance:

Chair Jill Hardy led the Pledge of Allegiance in the Flag salute.

2. Adoption of Agenda:

Motion by JY; Seconded by FM; Vote 7-0 in favor.

3. Adoption of Minutes for Meeting No. 1, April 2, 2019:

Motion by JL; Seconded by TH; Vote 6-0 in favor with Mr. Mignano abstaining.

4. Overview of District Demographics -- continued:

Jon Archibald, Assistant Superintendent, Administrative Services at the District, referencing additional handouts, described the District’s fiscal concerns about declining student population at the District coupled with the increasing pension and health care contributions required. Jon also described future budget cuts under consideration in an attempt by the District to reduce its structural deficit.

5. Sowers School Property:

Brian Whitmore, President of BCA Architects, the architect of the proposed new (or to-be-remodeled) Sowers Middle School, discussed Measure Q’s past and proposed expenditures on all District schools. Brian Whitmore also described the choices inherent in remodeling Sowers on its present site or building a new Sowers School at the Gisler Site. Jon Archibald noted that the moneys spent for capital projects (such as new school construction or remodeling) cannot be used for General Fund expenditures.

A member of the public wondered why the District would consider investing significant dollars in a new middle school in the southern part of Huntington Beach when the dollars are so tight for spending on the Perry School? Another member of the public suggested that neighborhoods should become involved in these decisions on schools and expressed concerns about the cost of busing.

6. Perry School Property:

This item was skipped in favor of Item No. 7, Item No. 6 to be returned to in a future Meeting of the Committee.

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7. Discussion of Facilities Advisory Committee Report to Board of Education.

Facilitator Jerry Suich proposed drafting the required Facilities Advisory Committee Report on the subject of the possible surplus of the Sowers Middle School for the purpose of accommodating a new Sowers School to be built on the Former Gisler Middle School Property. The Committee agreed that this Draft Report would be reviewed by Committee Members at the next meeting. The Draft Report for the Perry School Property would be undertaken at a later date.

8. Proposed Additional Meetings:

The Tuesdays of May 28 and June 11 were agreed upon as acceptable meeting dates.

10. Overall Comments from Committee Members:

Discussion centered on the choices of either modernizing Sowers in place or rebuilding it entirely on the Gisler site.

11. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.