

**2 x 2 Committee Meeting Notes  
Monday, September 14, 2009**

**Attendees:**

Tom Bates, Mayor  
William Huyett, Superintendent  
Phil Kamlarz, City Manager  
Nancy Riddle, President, Board of Education  
Karen Hemphill, Vice President, Board of Education  
Deputy Police Chief Hambleton  
Scott Ferris, Manager of Recreation and Youth Services  
Neil Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Educational Services  
Lew Jones, Facilities Director  
Angela Gallegos-Castillo, Youth Services Coordinator  
Christine Daniel, Deputy City Manager

President Nancy Riddle convened the 2 x 2 Committee meeting at 8:30 am.

**Comments from the public:**

Pam Grey from Parks and Recreation, who is also on the WW Subcommittee, a subcommittee formed out of the parks bond measure approved in 2008 that allots \$500 million in bond funding. The City of Berkeley will receive \$4.876 million. The Committee spent the summer routing City parks to assess needs and submitted a list to the City outlining the capital needs. The Measure indicates that park growth has to be on City property. Ms. Grey's concern is that the park, located on MLK and Oregon Street is owned partly by BUSD and is still under lease. It was suggested that the Committee discuss this with Lew Jones, Director of Facilities for BUSD.

Rob Collier who is co-chair of Berkeley Pools campaign asked that negotiations for the pool be fast tracked because there are a number of complex issues that need to be decided.

**New School Year Updates:**

**2020 Vision:**

Superintendent Huyett discussed the District's implementation of the 18-month plan. This Plan has been vetted through the Board and the 2020 Team. The District has come up with six areas of concentration that include (1) outreach and communication to parent and the community, (2) to continue work on coherent curriculum that engages all students, is standards based and supported by professional development and adequate intervention, (3) secondary redesign (4) working on accountability 18-month plan and assessment of small schools reforms and others (5) hiring, retaining and supporting professional staff of color and (6) future of facilities programs. An advisory committee is being formed to provide recommendations to the Board which should be accomplished by February.

Vice President Hemphill talked about the All City Equity Task Force meetings held on Saturdays and the rich discussions that have taken place about middle school cultural and personal identify issues.

Superintendent Huyett attended the high school Task Force meeting, which focused on parent outreach and academic improvement. The Task Force has been meeting for four Saturdays over the summer.

The Task Force is now at a point where the planning team is taking information from subcommittees. Tracy Shear of the Berkeley Alliance is putting that information into a set of recommendation for City Council and the Board. The recommendations that come forward will have to be sustainable and should be ready by the end of October.

The City has put together a work plan for the 2020 Vision that looked at how they can improve the agency allocation process. Staff is reviewing to make sure the plan aligns with the Vision. The City is also working on its early intervention plan (BEST) for the social, emotional and behavioral issues for children from 0-5.

Scott Ferris discussed new programming with BEARS. Students were sent to Berkeley camp this summer (what used to be EDC). Many students also enjoyed swimming lessons. Next weekend, there will be an environmental cleanup at the Marina with the LEARNS program. Children will be treated to a pizza party. Sports programs also begin in three weeks.

The McCullum Youth Court program in middle schools, run by the City, involves offenders from Longfellow and Willard. There is also a boxing program at Kenney Park aimed mostly toward young Latino youth who may be headed down an unhealthy path.

There was discussion about a grocery store near Longfellow that has agreed to stop selling junk food to kids during school hours. Mayor Bates raised the idea of doing a citywide ordinance that prohibits junk food being sold during school hours, for stores located within ¼ mile from the middle schools.

#### **Approval of notes from March 6, 2009**

Revision: John Selawsky was not in attendance as Committee member Mayor Bates/Director Hemphill and approved unanimously as revised

#### **Downtown Safety**

Deputy Chief Hambleton noted that things have been good, with few problems. President Riddle noted that there has been a huge reduction in expulsions at Berkeley High School.

#### **Coordinating School/City Services**

Deputy City Manager Christine Daniel discussed the City's mental health services and their realignment in response to budget constraints. The City now uses 18 interns and is carefully tracking their billable hours.

Vice President Hemphill voiced the need for a common database. Without this information, we do not get a picture of what agencies are serving a particular family. Obtaining this information would improve service delivery.

Mayor Bates raised the question of what barriers the District has around releasing medical information to the City. He asked that Superintendent Huyett and City Manager Kamlarz put together a work group to pursue this issue and provide a status update at the next 2 x 2 meeting.

It was reported that the PTA who have put out notices to parents about drop off and pick up of students is reinforcing parking enforcement. Parking enforcement officers are also passing out flyers.

### **Budget Updates**

The District balanced its budget, but just barely. The nutrition services program broke even last year. ADA was up a fraction and any stimulus money remaining is an unknown.

The City is facing rising retirement costs. Its transfer tax is way down. They continue to downsize the organization without gutting key services.

### **Crossing Guards**

The Chief of Police passed out a sheet showing locations where they have guards. The City foots the bill for crossing guards. Intersections chosen are based on input from its traffic division.

### **Afterschool Busing**

Scott Ferris reported that the District's Transportation Office has accommodated students needing transportation to after school programs.

### **Federal Stimulus Money**

Vice President Hemphill raised the issue of youth employment and job training programs. She would like a general update of how the City and the District can look at obtaining funding for these programs.

Scott Ferris advised that the City received monies this summer for 325 kids. They also have a fall program that will serve more than 100 kids. They are applying to obtain slots in the Richmond Build programs. The City currently has 14 slots but would like to raise the number of slots to 20.

Mayor Bates asked that we look at grants that would tie the City, District and Adult school together and place it on the upcoming agenda.

President Riddle suggested that we also add foster kids and special ed students into that plan.

### **Land Use**

The City is working on modifications to the MOU for the pool agreement. Mayor Bates noted that there are space issues and referenced the request from Rob Collier to move quickly on the agreement.

**Next agenda:**

2020 Update

Where will City Council meetings be held when the District moves to West Campus?

Federal Stimulus grants tying the City, District and Adult School together

Youth employment including foster kids and special education students

District releasing Medi-Cal information to the City

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned by President Riddle at 10:06 am