

**MEASURE A - STRONG SCHOOLS BOND
CITIZEN'S OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
PALO ALTO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

MINUTES FOR MEETING OF August 11, 2014

Opening

The Citizens' Oversight Committee held a meeting in the Duveneck's Staff Lounge, 705 Alester Avenue, Palo Alto, California.

*All handouts can be viewed at the District office, Business Services 25 Churchill Avenue

Members present:

Mr. Walt Hays, Senior Citizen

Ms. Helene Leichter, Parent (Absent)

Mr. James Cowie, Business Organization Member

Ms. Catharine Garber, Business Organization Member

Ms. Arianne Teherani, Parent

Mr. Todd Collins, Taxpayer Organization (Absent)

Mr. Bruce Whitson, Parent

Others present:

Mr. Tom Hodges, fs3|Hodges Construction Management

Ms. Lori Larson, fs3|Hodges Construction Management

Mr. Daniel Teo

District Staff Present:

Dr. Robert Golton, Bond Program Manager

Mr. Ron Smith, Facilities Project Manager

Ms. Betty Munoz, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no request for public comment.

Review of Agenda

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Whitson moved to approve the minutes of April 23, 2014. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION: Walt moved to nominate Cowie for Chair and Whitson for Vice Chair.
Motion carried 5-0.

Program Status Update

Golton said that the Bond program is mature now and they have less projects finishing this summer. Voters authorized \$378 million, of that amount \$123 million is available to issue.

Member asked how much is set aside for the new elementary school? Golton said \$58 million is reserved for enrollment growth. Member asked when will that decision be made? Golton said probably not this year but next year.

Member asked if towards the end they still do not see a need for another school, would the money be spent elsewhere and what if three years down the road they realize they need another school? Golton said they would need to pass another bond.

Member asked has the decision been made to use the money or to save the money for future use? Golton said that will be a decision the Board will need to make.

Hodges presented an update presentation on the following projects:

-Paly Math/Social Science Building

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- Paly Media Arts Building
- Paly Performing Arts
- Paly Science Addition
- Paly Library Modernization Project
- Gunn Miranda and Parking Drop Off
- Gunn Building E and K Renovation
- Gunn Central Building Project
- Duveneck Elementary New Classroom Wings
- Duveneck New Library

Member asked about concerns with landscaping with the recent drought? Smith said recently they have done drought tolerant landscapes and direct irrigating.

Golton said the Media Arts and Classroom building project was awarded to Taisei Corporation. The District is currently involved in arbitration with Taisei. Taisei filed a claim \$1.6 million and the District rejected a claim. In the end, they filed a claim for the complete project in the amount of \$3.4 million. Mediation will take place on October 2, 2014.

Member asked if litigation fees are being paid out of bond money? Golton said yes.

Golton said the other complicated project is the Paly new gym. In March 2013, the District was approached by a donor to fund the Palo Alto High School's new gym. The District would place \$5.5 million and the donor would cover the rest. Statement of intent of from the donor is in the amount of \$24 million. The estimated cost of the project is now \$36 - \$40 million. The District presented to the Board in June a plan to raise the total amount to \$36 million. They found this additional money in a pool of money they had for furniture, fixtures, and equipment that they thought they would use for school projects. The plan to close the gap of getting to the additional \$12 million is to give half of the money to Paly and half to Gunn for their projects. Hodges also worked with the Paly Steering Committee and they have swept money from other projects and agreed to use it for the Paly Gym project. The District believes the project will get through DSA soon.

MOTION: Whitson moved to approve that the Paly New Gym is within the scope of the bond. Approved 5-0.

Annual Audit

Auditors are coming and they will meet with 2-3 members of the Committee to review their scope of work. Collins and Whitson will meet with the auditors. They will also meet with a Board member.

Annual Report

Annual report will be worked through email.

Site Visit

The Committee visited Duveneck's new library, the new two-story classroom building, the new one-story classroom building, and the renovated flex room.

August 11, 2014 Agenda

The next COC meeting is scheduled for October 15, 2014. The agenda will be worked through email.

Next Meeting and Future Meetings Schedule

January 2015
April 2015
July 2015

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.