

Minutes of the Community Finance Committee
September 25, 2008
Hendee ESC

The District 64 Community Finance Committee met on September 25, 2008 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Hendee ESC.

Members in attendance included James Bucaro, Kent Bergren, Craig Elderkin, Dave Govertsen, Craig Harter, John Heyde, Eileen Kelleher, Sharon Lawson, Tom Nasshan, Sally Pryor, Sue Runyon, Paul Sheehan, Renate Stolzer and Bruce Martin. Also in attendance was Attorney Terry Hodges from Hodges Loizzi law firm.

Following introductions and welcome from the Board President, a motion was made by Craig Elderkin and seconded by John Heyde to approve the minutes of the August 11th meeting.

Presentation from Attorney Terry Hodges

Board Committee Structure – Terry Hodges reviewed Board policy on the legal structure of Board committees and reminded members that committees cannot take final action on behalf of a Board. Ms. Hodges also reviewed the obligations of the Open Meetings Act. In keeping with the research intent of what were called sub-committees, the District 64 Community Finance Committee will change the name from sub-committees to study groups. While the Community Finance Committee is subject to all the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, including posting requirements, quorum attendance requirements, agendas/notice/minutes requirements, the study groups will not be bound by these same regulations. Ms. Hodges specifically addressed questions regarding communications and clarified that people can always send a group e-mail to the Board to share information and might want to add a “tag” stating that that is the purpose of the message. Board members would only be in violation of the Open Meetings Act should they respond to this message in a way that could be construed as a discussion among more than two Board members.

Ms. Hodges also discussed the Ethics and Gift Ban obligations that apply to school employees and Board members.

A complete handout of Ms. Hodges notes for the September 25th meeting are available should anyone need a copy.

Study Group Meeting Time

At approximately 8:10 p.m. the Revenue, Spending, Communications and Legislative Study Groups formed as small groups to review the charge from the Board of Education and to discuss plans going forward. Attorney Terry Hodges met with the Legislative Study Group to continue the discussion.

At approximately 8:50 p.m. the study groups were asked to reconvene as a full Community Finance Committee. Sally Pryor distributed information on the

Committee-of-the-Whole on Strategic Planning scheduled for October 6 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. and encouraged all members of the CFC to attend to learn more about this important community project.

The Community Finance Committee agreed to meet again on November 6, 2008 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.

Before the conclusion of the meeting, Board President Sue Runyon updated the CFC on recent Board discussions. She noted that the Board had taken action to approve the FY 09 budget at the September 22nd meeting. In addition, she commented that following a discussion on the Sixth Day of Enrollment, she had brought up her concerns about equity in administrative staffing, particularly at the larger elementary schools. As she noted, the Board had asked administration to consider identifying specific criteria for when assistant principals at the elementary schools might be added.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sally Pryor.

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