SAUSALITO MARIN CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEETING MINUTES June 5, 2017

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present:

Joshua Barrow, Ida Green, Debra Turner

Absent:

Thomas Newmeyer, Caroline Van Alst

Superintendent:

Will McCoy

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Turner led the pledge of allegiance.

WILLOW CREEK ACADEMY'S REQUEST FOR CHARTER SCHOOL FACILITY

Elizabeth Mori of Fagen Friedman & Fulfrost said that the State Attorney General is concerned that the charter school's request for funding under Proposition 51 would limit the district's future facilities options. Ms. Mori explained that there is a possibility that the facilities would have to be dedicated for charter use for the foreseeable and that if WCA cannot raise the required matching dollars, the district would be held liable.

Marijke Smit of Willow Creek Academy's Board of Directors said there is significant opportunity to get additional funds from the State for the district. She then gave an overview of the Fund 51 school construction measure and the Charter School Facilities Program. She said that WCA is eligible for renovation funds under this program as it has several buildings that have been in use for 15 years or more.

Trustee Turner said that given the Attorney General's concerns about this application, she could not support it.

Jeff Knowles of the WCA Board said that the district would retain authority to approve or deny access to the funds. He added that it is not yet clear if the school would want to proceed with the application, as there is a requirement for matching funds. We want to keep the door open, he told the Board.

Marilyn Mackel, a local resident, said that the district currently does not have a long-range strategic plan. Without such a plan, this request would put the district in an untenable situation.

Johanna VanderMolen, a WCA board member, said the charter is not asking for final approval or money. She continued: We should work on a facilities plan for both campuses. In the long run, this will benefit all the children.

Barbara Killey said that according to the Attorney General, the facilities part of the current MOU between the district and the charter school is insufficient, and this puts the district in a position to approve matters that are currently in question. If this opportunity arises again, it would be good for both schools to work collaboratively on an application.

Trustee Green said she did not believe that the WCA leadership had presented the full story. There was not an adequate timeline for bringing the matter to the superintendent and the Board, she said.

Trustee Barrow said that the Board has previously discussed the aging facilities but does not yet have a completed plan or a timeline for a bond measure.

As no motion was made, the matter failed.

ADJOURNMENT

M/s/c Green/Turner to Adjourn at 8:54 a.m.

Aye: Barrow No: None

Absent: Newmeyer, Van Alst

Signature Date

Title