



REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Tuesday, February 3, 2004

MINUTES

Prior to the regular meeting, Gary Nellesen, Director, Facilities Planning & Management, Randy Hartman, Vice President, Bovis Lend Lease, Caryn Cowin, Project Manager, Bovis Lend Lease, and Committee members Armando Macedo, Laurie Marshall, Don Sachs, and Roy Test toured the Health Careers and Language Center, athletic fields site, and the Central Plant construction sites. Because of the recent rain, members were only able to view these sites from a distance.

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Mt. San Antonio College Citizens Oversight Committee was called to order at 6:00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 3, 2004.

CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Marlen Garcia	Lina Ledford (arrived at 6:02 p.m.)
Edward Lo	Armando Macedo
Laurie Marshall	Richard Malooly (arrived at 6:04 p.m.)
Becky Meza	Barbara Price
Don Sachs	Mike Spence
Roy Test	

CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT

None

STAFF PRESENT

Christopher C. O'Hearn, President
Nancy Rice, Vice President, Administrative Services
Gary Nellesen, Director, Facilities Planning & Management
Randy Hartman, Vice President, Bovis Construction
Diana Casteel, Executive Assistant to the President and Board of Trustees

1. WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS

Vice Chair Price welcomed new members Marlen Garcia, Armando Macedo, Laurie Marshall, Becky Meza, and Don Sachs. Each committee member gave a self-introduction and explained what constituency they represent on the committee.

Representing business/community are: Marlen Garcia, Lina Ledford, Edward Lo, Richard Malooly, Armando Macedo, Laurie Marshall, and Don Sachs.

Roy Test is the senior citizens' organization representative.

Mike Spence is the taxpayer's representative.

Becky Meza represents the student organization.

Barbara Price is the representative of the college advisory council or foundation.

Dr. O'Hearn added his welcome, especially to new committee members. He said it is important for new members to review their binders before the next meeting. It includes information on the committee's purpose and activities. The main role of the Citizens Oversight Committee is to communicate back to the public on progress being made on bond projects and how dollars are being spent. Dr. O'Hearn also noted that the committee will be electing a new chair and vice chair and suggested that, for continuity, it might be helpful if the chair was a returning member and the vice chair a new committee member.

2. SELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

It was moved by Mike Spence, seconded by Don Sachs, to nominate Barbara Price for the Citizens Oversight Committee Chair. There were no other nominations. Motion unanimously carried.

It was moved by Don Sachs, seconded by Roy Test, to nominate Armando Macedo for the position of Vice Chair. Mr. Macedo declined the nomination.

It was moved by Armando Macedo to nominate Don Sachs for the position of Vice Chair. Mr. Sachs declined the nomination.

It was moved by Mike Spence, seconded by Armando Macedo, to nominate Marlen Garcia for the position of Vice Chair. There were no other nominations. Motion unanimously carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Edward Lo, seconded by Lina Ledford, to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2003, meeting. Motion unanimously carried.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

5. BOND SERIES

Vice President Rice reported that Dr. O'Hearn, Mr. Nellesen, and she went to San Francisco on January 20, and made presentations to both Standard & Poor's and Moody's rating agencies. She was very happy to report that both gave the College excellent bond ratings – Aa3 and AA – which are unusually high. Most school districts receive a single “A” rating, while ours is called a “double A” rating. Ms. Rice said the College did buy insurance to boost the rate up to triple A. She briefly shared what they had presented, including community partnerships and demographics, details of the bond program, and the College's finances.

Vice President Rice said she had been informed today that all \$75 million of bonds have sold for an inclusive cost of 4.31 percent, which is one percent less than the College's bonds sold for two years ago. Companies showing an interest in the bonds included Franklin, Vanguard, US Trust, Morgan Stanley, Citizens Bank, National Citibank, Nuveen, Wells Fargo, Alliance, Capital Research, Bank of America, Goldman Sachs, and others.

President O'Hearn added that the ratings agencies commended Mt. San Antonio for being in the forefront of managing its bond measure funds prudently and efficiently. The College was able to start its building program much sooner than many other districts that passed a bond measure at the same time. He said the ratings agencies were particularly interested in the College's reserves, and the fact that the Board has a balanced budget policy. They were also impressed with the College's financial recovery plan. According to the College's underwriter (RBC Dain Rauscher), the agencies noted that the College is weathering the current fiscal crisis better than most community colleges and credited that to strong management. President O'Hearn commended committee members for their leadership role.

Chairman Price reiterated President O'Hearn's comments saying the bonds ratings are a reflection of the College's leadership team. She said it is clear to her, since serving on the Citizens Oversight Committee, that the bond projects are being well run and well managed.

6. UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Gary Nellesen gave a brief update and shared project renderings and construction progress photographs on the following active projects:

- *Campus-wide Energy Conservation-Phase 2.* Construction is almost complete. This is an \$11.8 million project and is on budget and on schedule. The completion of this project should result in a reduction of the College's energy use by approximately 35%.
- *Language Center and Health Careers Center.* This is a \$19 million project consisting of three buildings with a total of 90,000 square feet. Expected completion is July 2004. The project is on schedule and on budget. The Language Center will house the following programs: English as a Second Language, AmLa, Foreign Languages,

and Sign Languages. The Humanities Division Office will also be located in this building.

- *Welding and Air Conditioning Technology.* The project just began in November and is expected to be completed by August 2004. It consists of two buildings totaling 26,500 square feet, plus site work and landscape at Bonita and Temple. It is a \$5.6 million project that will include both classroom and lab areas for the air conditioning, welding, and refrigeration programs.
- *Athletic Fields.* This project initially provides new and improved athletic facilities/ fields for championship competition. It also provides expanded parking for additional cars adjacent to the athletic playing fields. Project construction began in December 2003, with expected completion by October 2004. The project includes the baseball and softball field/stadium, lighted soccer fields and golf practice area. The project is on schedule, but is facing some challenges, including rain and underground structures that are slowing progress a little. It is a \$7.5 million project.
- *Upcoming Projects:* The College is currently going through the bid award process for the Science Buildings, Music Expansion, and Seismic Retrofit for the Art Building and the Information & Educational Technology Building.
- *Projects in the Design Phase:* Classroom Improvements, Design and Online Technology Center, and Building 45 Remodel.
- *Projects on the Horizon:* Master Plan Update, Agricultural Sciences, Physical Education, and Continued Infrastructure Improvements. Dr. O'Hearn reviewed some of the changes that have occurred in the Master Plan and the need for its update, i.e., the Language Center was originally an ESL Building, and originally Student Health Services was to be housed in another location. While the original thinking was good, plans need to change as the College evolves and looks for ways to stretch and save dollars. President O'Hearn said that just today the Campus Master Plan Coordinating Team (CMPCT) had a discussion as to whether the College would be better served by restoring/remodeling the current gym rather than building a new facility. As a result of that discussion, we are going to have a structural engineer to assess the facility and see if that is a viable option.

Mr. Spence asked what projects were in line to receive funding should Proposition 55 pass. Mr. Nellesen said the Agricultural Sciences Project (project #5) would receive approximately \$9 million. Other projects impacted by Proposition 55 are the remodel of the Business building and possibly the remodel of the Child Development Center.

President O'Hearn told committee members that while they are seeing changes in brick and mortar, the College teaching and learning environment is also changing. He said all the building changes on campus are a reflection of the strength and stability of the College. As a way of thanking the Citizens Oversight Committee members for their continued work and support, he gave each a gold Mt. SAC paperweight as a token of the College's appreciation.

7. MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

- Chairman Price again encouraged new members to go through the notebooks provided by staff. She said the Citizens Oversight Committee has proven itself to being serious about knowing what's going on related to the bond projects. She asked that the May agenda include an item where new members may ask any questions to help bring them "up to speed."
- Dr. O'Hearn added that out of respect for committee members' schedules, staff try to run very efficient meetings that start on time and don't keep members any longer than necessary.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 18, 2004, at 5:30 p.m. A tour will be scheduled at 4:30 p.m., for those interested in attending.

9. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Don Sachs, seconded by Edward Lo, to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 p.m. Motion unanimously carried.

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