

CONSTRUCTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 11, 2006

The Construction Advisory Committee was held in the large conference room in the Support Services Annex, 3308 Canal Street, Fort Myers, FL beginning at 3:45 p.m.

PRESENT (MEMBERS*)

Raymond Campbell*
Chris Mills*
Karen Rubin*
Deanne Robison*
Art Steidell*
Jeanne Dozier
Reggie Snell
William G. Moore
Jeannie Bajaña, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Rocio Restrepo*
Ophie Franklin*
Susan Waite*
Reynolds, Shelton*
Carlo C. Lane*
Ronald Kent*
Nelson Glueck*

VISITOR

Art Castellanos
R.M. Young

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Mills asked if there were any public comments and there were none so he closed the public comments.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Mr. Mills asked the Committee to review the minutes for December 7, 2005. There were two changes to be made. Mr. Mills then asked for a motion for approval of the minutes after changes are made. The motion was made and seconded with all members present saying "Aye".

DISTRIC EMPLOYING STRUCTURAL ENGINEER:

- Mr. Snell began by notifying the committee that discussion will take place at the next Board Briefing (January 17th) the subject of the District employing a Structural Engineer. He distributed a copy of a proposed job description, pay schedule and the survey on whether or not other Districts in the state employ a Structural Engineer.
- Mr. Moore shared the pros and cons of hiring a Structural Engineer. One concern he had was that the employee may not have enough to do each day (considering what they were trained to do), and with the salary range being low, the District would have a hard time filling the position or keeping it filled. He stated that Architects usually do the work of Structural Engineers and PEICO does the Threshold Inspections. He also noted that even if we had expert Structural Engineers, it could be a conflict of interest if they were used to inspect certain things.

- Mrs. Dozier stated that if a Structural Engineer were not needed and we use a Consulting Engineer instead, she would relay it to the other Board Members. She also complimented the committee on being responsible for the idea of a keypad in the schools.
- Mr. Steidell stated that if an in-house Structural Engineer makes a mistake, the district is responsible.
- When asked what his position on hiring a Structural Engineer was, Mr. Moore stated that he would prefer to hire another Project Manager.
- Ms. Rubin asked if a Structural Engineer can have other job duties to help other employees or if a Project Manager can do Structural Engineering. Mr. Snell explained that a Structural Engineer is more task oriented and a Project Manager has a broader job description.
- Mr. Mills went through each “Essential Function” listed on the job description and found that there were few functions listed that would be usable to the potential employee. His overall opinion is that the District does not need a Structural Engineer.
- Mr. Steidell agreed and added for comment that the need has not been identified and the liability is high.
- The unanimous recommendation of the committee was that the District does not need a Structural Engineer. Art Steidell made the motion and it was seconded by Ray Campbell.
- Mr. Mills shared that he would like to see the Construction Advisory Committee (CAC) be more involved in the planning process. Mr. Moore assured the committee that we can have planners at these meetings.
- Mr. Mills also feels that Project Managers (PM’s) are doing planning work. He doesn’t feel we should have PM’s sitting with Principals.
- Mrs. Dozier explained that in the planning stage, the planners know about education; however, they do not know about the construction side. The Construction Department needs to sit in on the planning stage to give their input. She agrees that this committee should be involved in the planning stage.
- Mr. Snell explained that mistakes are more likely to occur whenever things are rushed. With the five year Capital Plan, construction is figured out backwards by how much time is needed for each stage of construction.
- Mr. Moore further explained that the District has to push Contractors and Architects because we have a timeline to open schools.
- Mr. Mills suggested that the committee start work on High School HHH, since a Construction Manager has not been selected yet.
- Mr. Mills commented on the fact that it seems there is so much worry in customizing buildings when what really matters is what goes on inside the buildings.

REVIEW – TRANSPORTATION

- Two prototypes, being developed for the Transportation Department, were laid out on the conference table for review. One for the Regional Facility (Tice Street) and the other for the Satellite Facilities (Estero, Leonard/Leonard, Littleton)
- The satellite facility will park 200 buses and facilities to repair 8 busses.

- The regional facility will park 400 buses and facilities to repair 16 busses.
- Mr. Mills and Mrs. Dozier expressed concern with the walls being round vs. square; Is there a price difference? Mr. Moore explained that it is a fixed fee that is negotiated before design.
- Mr. Mills requested to see a sheet with information on particular projects. He will send an email stating what information should be available for the CAC meeting. Another suggestion made by Mr. Mills is that a plan table be set up to see drawings, whenever convenient.
- Mrs. Dozier would like the committee to review and offer suggestions on design. Recommended that the Architect have their plans done a week ahead to give time to members to review.
- Mr. Moore would also like to check size of administration offices in the proposed Administration building vs. the new Transportation building.

Mr. Mills moved to not have round walls since they mean more money and dissimilar elements on the outside as well as equitable in-space sizing. Mr. Steidell seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Mrs. Dozier commented on the outstanding job Mr. Mills did when he met with the Board. He received the highest respect.
- Mrs. Dozier will make a recommendation to the Board regarding the Structural Engineer.

Mrs. Dozier updated the committee:

- First Semester ended
- Graduation dates have been set
- School District is considering multiple graduations for cost savings
- School District is opening up a Massage School at High Tech Central
- School bell times have been tweaked to allow Transportation to get students to school on time

GOOD OF THE ORDER:

- Ms. Robison inquired about the property at the Nature Center.
- Mr. Moore stated that the City of Ft. Myers does not own the property; therefore, the School District has backed off.

Mr. Mills asked if there was anything else, and Ms. Rubin made the motion to adjourn and Ms. Robison seconded the motion. All approved the motion by saying "Aye".

The meeting adjourned at 5:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeannie Bajaña
Recording Secretary