

SCHOOL PLANNING ELECTED OFFICIALS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the School Planning Elected Officials Oversight Committee (EOOC) on Wednesday, July 29, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Room B1-501, Building B, of the County Administration Building, 1800 27thth Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were **Mayor Sabin Abell**, City of Vero Beach Councilmember; **Mayor Susan Adams**, City of Fellsmere Councilwoman; **Mayor Richard Gillmor**, City of Sebastian Council Member; **Gerard Weick**, Town of Indian River Shores Councilman; and **Carol Johnson**, IRC School Board Chairman.

Absent were **Wesley S. Davis**, Indian River County (IRC) Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Chairman; and **Commissioner Gary C. Wheeler**, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council Chairman.

Also present were IRC Staff: Robert Keating, Community Development Director; Stan Boling, Planning Director; and Darcy Vasilas, Commissioner Assistant, District 3. Others present: Susan Olson, IRC School Board Director of Facility Planning & Construction.

Call to Order

Mr. Stan Boling, IRC Planning Director, called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. and asked for nominations for Chairman for 2008.

Mr. Boling pointed out Attachment 10 in the agenda packet was the Timeline of Yearly School Planning Activities and noted 2009 was the first calendar year of the new meeting schedule, which had some changes from the previous Timeline.

Election of Chairman

ON NOMINATION BY Mayor Gillmor, SECONDED BY Mayor Adams, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to elect Mayor Sabin Abell as the Chairman for the School Planning Elected Officials Oversight Committee for 2009.

Approval of Minutes of October 2, 2008

ON MOTION BY Mayor Gillmor, SECONDED BY Mayor Adams, the members voted unanimously (5-0) to approve the minutes of October 2, 2008 as submitted.

Overview of the School Planning Activities

Mr. Boling reviewed his memorandum dated July 21, 2009 and highlighted the following school planning activities:

1. (October 2008) Elected Officials Oversight Committee reviewed various school planning/concurrency updates and the latest 5 Year School Facilities Plan.
2. (November 2008) School Planning Technical Advisory Committee reviewed and approved final site plan for Storm Grove Middle School (formerly known as Middle School BB) located at 57th Street and 62nd Avenue.
3. (November/December 2008) Staff coordinated and prepared County – School Board developers agreement for off-site improvements serving Storm Grove Middle School. Agreement approved by School Board and Board of County Commissioners.
4. (December 2008) Staff met with school district staff to review school capacity determination letters (SCADLs) and necessary adjustments to output data used in those letters.
5. (January/February) Staff provided school district staff with population projections by traffic analysis zone (TAZs), which are neighborhood-sized sub-geographic areas within the county. There were 154 TAZs within the county.
6. (February 2009) Staff reviewed and provided comments on school district site plan for modifying the Wabasso School campus facilities. Revised site plan approved by staff June 2009 (no School Planning Technical Advisory Committee approval required).
7. (February 2009) Staff Working Group [meeting #1] reviewed population and student enrollment projections, and draft 5 Year Facilities Plan.

Approved outline for first annual concurrency assessment report, and discussed school bus stops in new developments.

Mayor Adams inquired if there were required sizes for school sites. Mr. Boling responded general guidelines for public school sites were 20 acres for an elementary school; 40 acres for a middle school; and 80 acres for high school.

Projected Student Enrollment

Mrs. Susan Olson, IRC School Board Director of Facility Planning & Construction, gave a PowerPoint presentation (a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office). She pointed out there had been growth in 2003, 2004, and 2005; not very much growth in 2006; a little more in 2007; and then a very large decline in 2008 due to the new South County Imagine Charter School.

Mrs. Olson opined there would continue to be some decline, part of that would be Charter Schools, and part would be the impact of the poor economy. She continued a small increase was expected in 2010 and in then a little more in the subsequent years.

Mrs. Olson explained how the District's projections were calculated and that the Department of Education (DOE) used different calculation methods which most times ended up with figures different from the District's because DOE calculated their figures on a linear progression based on recent trends consequently, when a large number of students were lost in 2008 because of the charter school, the DOE projected that kind of decrease every year afterwards.

Mayor Gillmor asked how the DOE numbers could impact us. Mrs. Olson replied DOE projections formed the basis for the budget given to the IRC School District every year. When DOE projected the smaller numbers the dollars received would be smaller.

Mrs. Olson announced there were several schools over capacity at the current time: Fellsmere Elementary, Citrus Elementary, and Treasure Coast Elementary. She added that was why Elementary School "C" was put into the Five Year Plan at a 20-acre site they have been negotiating to obtain located in Fellsmere to the west of Vero Lake Estates.

Councilman Weick noted there were five new homes built in Indian River Shores that were not indicated on the Permits Issued and Future Units Vested section of the Draft Annual School Concurrency Assessment Report for 2008/2009 (Attachment 8). Mrs. Olson stated she would check the data and Mr. Boling stated he would update the report.

Mr. Boling explained the system in place included a procedure, whereby every month each municipality and the County send permitting information to the School District and that there may be some breakdown in communication which would be remedied.

Mr. Boling stated Mrs. Olson had covered both agenda items regarding Projected Student Enrollment and Draft Five Year School Facilities Plan so he would back up to agenda Item #6, Draft Annual School Concurrency Assessment Report.

Mr. Boling reviewed the report, Attachment #8, providing background on school concurrency; the demand determined by information compiled by the municipalities and the County on the permits issued for new residential construction; and an addition being made to the report which was a table converting the permit issued data to data on students generated from the permitted construction. He added he would be sending out an updated assessment report to all the municipalities.

Mayor Gillmor questioned on page 5 of Attachment 8, was the addition to Sebastian River High School comparable to the Freshman Learning Center used at Vero Beach High School. Mrs. Olson responded in the affirmative.

Other Matters From Members

Discussion was held regarding the student capacity in Osceola Magnet School which would be at 750 after the capacity of 192 students was added with the replacement of the school at a new location such as Pointe West.

Mayor Adams inquired why Osceola Magnet School replacement came in higher on the "To Do List" than adding a new elementary school in North County. Mrs. Johnson responded the expansion of student capacity at Osceola Magnet and Vero Beach Elementary was more cost effective than building a new elementary school at this point. She added based on enrollment numbers once school starts next month, and if monies were available, elementary school "C" could move up the projected list from the year 2014.

Matters and Comments from the Public

There were none.

Adjournment

Chairman Abell adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.