

SCHOOL PLANNING ELECTED OFFICIALS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

There was a meeting of the School Planning Elected Officials Oversight Committee (EOOC) on Friday, November 3, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. in the First Floor Conference Room "A" of the County Administration Building, 1840 25th Street, Vero Beach, Florida.

Present were Arthur Neuberger, Indian River County (IRC) Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Chairman; Ken Daige, City of Vero Beach Councilmember; John McCants, City of Fellsmere Deputy Mayor (filling in for Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere Mayor); and Jeff Koons, Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council Commissioner.

Absent was Brian Burkeen, City of Sebastian Mayor; Sara Savage, City of Fellsmere Mayor, and Kathryn A. Wilson, IRC School Board Chairman (all excused).

Also present were IRC Staff: Robert Keating, Community Development Director; Stan Boling, Planning Director; and Darcy Vasilas, Assistant to the Executive Aide. Others present: Dr. Dan McIntyre, IRC School Board Planning and Operations Assistant Superintendent; Joel Tyson, interested citizen; and Debbie MacKay, IRC School Board member elect.

Call to Order

Mr. Stan Boling, IRC Planning Director, announced Chairman Brian Burkeen was unable to attend today's meeting so he asked everyone to introduce themselves and then opened the floor to nominations for an EOOC Chairman for 2006.

Election of Chairman

ON NOMINATION BY Commissioner Neuberger to elect Councilmember Ken Daige as the Chairman for the School Planning Elected Officials Oversight Committee for 2006.

ON MOTION BY Commissioner Neuberger, SECONDED by Deputy Mayor McCants, the members voted unanimously (4-0) to close the nominations for Chairman of the School Planning Elected Officials Oversight Committee for 2006.

Councilmember Daige was declared Chairman, since there had been no other nominations.

Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2005

**ON MOTION BY Deputy Mayor McCants,
SECONDED BY Commissioner Neuberger, the
members voted unanimously (4-0) to approve the
minutes of June 17, 2005.**

Overview of the School Planning Activities

Mr. Boling explained this meeting was being held because it was a requirement of the Interlocal Agreement existing between IRC, the City of Sebastian, the City of Vero Beach, and the City of Fellsmere. He stated the purpose was to provide a higher level of information by sharing and co-planning on proposals and projections between the County, Municipalities and the IRC School Board. He said the EIOC was a forum to discuss how the Interlocal Agreement was functioning, and to bring up areas of mutual concern.

Mr. Boling reviewed the following public school planning activities which occurred during the 2005/2006 period:

1. Reviewed and received approval by the School Planning Technical Advisory Committee of the new Liberty Magnet School site plan.

Note: The new Liberty Magnet School was open. An arrangement had been made for interim traffic measures at 81st Street/66th Avenue. Permanent intersection improvements were scheduled for the 2006/2007 school year.

2. Reviewed and received approval by the City of Vero Beach and School Planning Technical Advisory Committee of the Vero Beach High School renovation plans.

Note: Renovations were under construction.

3. Approval by the County of a request to abandon the segment of 14th Street right-of-way lying between Vero Beach High School and the Vero Beach Elementary campuses.

Note: This abandonment allows for more flexibility in use and design of existing and future facilities.

4. Coordination between IRC School District staff and County Traffic Engineering staff regarding improvements to traffic circulation at Oslo Middle School.

Note: Driveway additions and improvements had been made.

5. Improvement and dedication of school/park sites from Waterway Village (DiVosta) and Millstone Landing (Shelby Homes) to the County. Improvements included: filling, grading, seeding, and “stubbing-out” for stormwater system, water and sewer utilities.
6. Hiring by the County of a consultant to conduct an impact fee study update, including an update of school impact fees.
7. Completion of draft School Concurrency Pilot Community Project documents (draft Interlocal Agreement, Public School Facilities Element, and Capital Improvements Element). Multiple staff/consultant meetings and workshops were held.

Commissioner Koons remarked the enrollment of students in Palm Beach County (PBC) had decreased because several people had left the area due to the high cost of living, loss of homes and jobs because of the 2004 hurricanes, and because of the growth which had occurred in the area. They were now faced with renovating and retrofitting the old schools in the older, lower income neighborhoods where the majority of current students lived.

Update on Impact Fees

Mr. Boling reviewed his memorandum providing an update of all countywide impact fees, a copy of which is on file in the Commission Office. He noted the BCC, at its October 3, 2006 meeting, approved the impact fee update consultant selection committee’s number one ranked consultant, Duncan Associates. He continued staff was currently negotiating a contract with the consultant so work on the impact fee update may begin as soon as the contract was satisfactory to both parties.

Update on School Sites and Projects

Dr. McIntyre provided an update on the school sites and projects currently underway. They were as follows:

- An architect had been selected to build a new middle school although the school site had not yet been determined.
- There were 53 small projects scheduled for the 2006/2007 school year including the renovations to Vero Beach High School. He noted those renovations were moving along well and should be completed by the end of next year.
- The Reserve Officers' Training Corps building and athletic facility at Sebastian River High School were under renovation.
- Sebastian River Middle School would be having an addition put on next year to include covered walkways.

Commissioner Koons reported the Treasure Coast Regional Planning Council in PBC had been demanding large developers to pay all costs for the new schools by signing agreements called "Bricks and Mortar Agreements". Discussion ensued on this subject and Councilmember Daige asked Ms. Vasilas to obtain a copy of this agreement. Ms. McKay remarked this would be an excellent idea to use in IRC.

Ms. McKay asked about keeping children in the low socio-economic environment with the renovating of schools in their current neighborhoods and setting them up for failure. Commissioner Koons explained they were addressing the entire family with academic programs that encompassed more than just a normal Kindergarten through 12th Grade education. He continued with examples of the programs and opportunities offered to improve the economic situations of the whole family living in the lower income areas.

Other Matters from Members

There were none.

Adjournment

Chairman Daige adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.