

CITY OF PASADENA
City Council Minutes
February 9, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.
City Hall Council Chamber

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

OPENING: Mayor Bogaard and Vice President Kenne called the special joint meeting of the City Council and Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) Board of Education to order at 6:34 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Hampton.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers:

Mayor Bill Bogaard
Vice Mayor Jacque Robinson
Councilmember Victor Gordo
Councilmember John Kennedy
Councilmember Steve Madison
Councilmember Gene Masuda
Councilmember Margaret McAustin
Councilmember Terry Tornek

Staff:

City Manager Michael J. Beck
City Attorney Michele Beal Bagneris
City Clerk Mark Jomsky

Board of Education:

President Scott Phelps (Absent)
Vice President Kimberly Kenne
Member Renatta Cooper
Member Tyron Hampton
Member Elizabeth Pomeroy
Member Mikala Rahn
Member Tom Selinske

Staff:

Dr. Brian McDonald, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. John Pappalardo, Chief Financial Officer

CEREMONIAL MATTERS

RECOGNITION OF 2015 ROSE COURT

The Mayor and Vice President Kenne recognized and presented Certificates of Recognition to the 2015 Rose Court: Queen Madison Elaine Triplett, Princess Emily Alicia Olivas Stoker, Princess Bergen Louise Onufer, Princess Mackenzie Joy Byers, Princess Simona K. Shao, Princess Veronica Sara Mejia, and Princess Gabrielle Ann Current (not present, parent accepted the Certificate on her behalf).

The Mayor and Vice President Kenne thanked the Tournament of Roses for the opportunity to meet and introduce the Royal Court, and members of the City Council and PUSD Board congratulated the Rose Court for their achievements, wishing them well in their future endeavors.

PRESENTATION REGARDING THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF THE COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION OFFICIALS' AWARD FOR COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS IN HOSTING THE "CAREERS TO CONSERVATION SUMMER YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM"

Frank Gonzales, Deputy Director of the East Community Services Agency of the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, acknowledged the collaborative work of the Agency, PUSD, and the City over the last two years, specifically as it relates to summer youth employment, noted that their collaborative efforts earned the program a National Prestigious Award from the "National Association of the County Parks and Recreation Officials", and presented Dr. McDonald, PUSD School Superintendent and Michael Beck, City Manager, with the aforementioned award.

UPDATE ON COLLABORATE PASADENA

The Mayor introduced the agenda item.

Councilmember Tornek provided a PowerPoint presentation on the efforts of the Collaborate PASadena Governance Ad Hoc Committee, which included a timeline of the work to be performed through June 2015.

Councilmember Gordo commented on the metrics to be developed as part of the process, and requested that the City Council and PUSD Board members be given the opportunity to weigh-in on the metrics prior to finalization, and that staff include baseline information for each metric.

In response to Councilmember Masuda, Member Selinkse noted that the PUSD is currently working on a policy revision related to dual enrollment, and stated that they are working collaboratively with Pasadena Community College (PCC) in expanding the dual enrollment program, potentially allowing High School students to enroll in PCC classes and earn college credits.

In response to Member Pomeroy's question regarding whether there is interest in participation on the part of Altadena and Sierra Madre with regard to the activities/initiative, the Mayor reported that Sierra Madre will be participating and selecting a representative to serve on the Leadership Council, and noted that a request will be going out the following day to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor, Michael Antonovich, requesting participation from Altadena.

The Mayor announced the PUSD and City representatives that were selected to serve on the Leadership Council: Member Kenne (alternative: Member Selinske), and Councilmember Tornek (alternate: Councilmember Kennedy).

Dr. Vera Vignes, Human Services Commission, reported on the critical work of the Committee as it relates to revising the City's 1994 Childcare Policy, with a focus on ages 0-5, proposed that the Childcare Policy be named, "The Early Child Development Policy", and noted that a discussion on the proposed policy is scheduled for the City Council meeting on March 2, 2015.

Councilmember Gordo thanked Dr. Vignes for her service on the Commission, and the Commission as a whole for its efforts to revamp the City's Childcare Policy.

On order of the Vice President and Mayor, the information was received and filed.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION REGARDING THE DRAFT YOUTH MASTER PLAN

Mercy Santoro, Director of Human Services, introduced the agenda item; and Lola Osborne, Northwest Manager, Christy Zamani, Executive Director of Day One, and Brian Biery, Director of Community Organizing at the Flintridge Center, provided an update on the Youth Master Plan as part of a PowerPoint presentation, which included a timeline for completion of the project, and responded to questions.

In response to Mr. Biery, Members Kenne and Rahn designated the PUSD Student Safety and Conduct Committee as the subcommittee to review and provide feedback on the draft Youth Master Plan, and stated that the matter will be agendized for a future meeting.

Following a brief discussion, and on order of the Vice President and Mayor, the information was received and filed.

UPDATE REGARDING THE PASADENA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MASTER PLAN

Member Rahn introduced the agenda item, reported on the work of the Board's Master Planning Subcommittee, including the establishment and approval of new school boundaries, and submitted a written summary of data described as, "Findings of the Master Planning/Boundary Taskforce", which reflects how the community and the schools have changed over time.

Meg Abrahamson, Interim Executive Director of Educational Services, provided an overview of the on-going work of the Master Planning Team (MPT) as part of a PowerPoint presentation, including information related to the purpose and objective of the MPT, and responded to questions.

Councilmember Kennedy inquired whether or not there is a connection between Collaborate PASadena and the efforts of MPT, commented on the popularity of the PUSD's Dual Language Immersion Program and inquired if the MPT considered increasing the number of opportunities related to teaching Mandarin Chinese, and suggested that PUSD consider expanding the program.

Councilmember Madison expressed concerns regarding the planned closure of San Rafael school, noting that it is important to keep at least one PUSD campus active in West Pasadena.

In response, Member Selinske discussed the challenges that the School District faces with regard to keeping San Rafael open, including the issues related to earthquake fault lines that run below the elementary school, the resulting State law that prevents the School District from expending funds on improvements to school facilities built on fault lines; and liability issues/concerns in operating school site on a fault line. However, he stated that the latest PUSD Board action was to relocate the school to the Allendale Elementary School campus after the improvements at Blair High School were completed.

Following discussion, Mary Dee Romney, Pasadena Resident, spoke regarding the anticipated closure of San Rafael School and the various public meetings that were held regarding the matter, stated that the jurisdiction/decision must rest with the PUSD Board not the City, and thanked the PUSD for the effort in the Master Plan.

On order of the Vice President and Mayor, the information was received and filed.

INFORMATION REGARDING CITY AND SCHOOL DISTRICT JOINT USE PROJECTS

Mercy Santoro, Director of Human Services introduced the agenda item, and Shirly Barrett, PUSD Facilities Ground Coordinator, provided an update on the City of Pasadena and PUSD Joint Use Capital Improvement Projects as part of a PowerPoint presentation, and responded to questions.

Members of the PUSD Board of Education thanked all staff for their hard work on the projects.

Member Hampton requested that the City consider contributing additional funding toward completion of the McKinley School Gymnasium project noting that the PUSD is slightly behind budget and that additional monies will assist in the completion of the project.

Following discussion, Loren Pluth, Project Manager, provided an update on the “John Muir High School South Field Improvements Project” as part of a PowerPoint presentation, and responded to questions.

Vice Mayor Robinson thanked the City and PUSD staff for their efforts on the John Muir Field Improvements, as well as the Los Angeles County for their cooperation and partnership.

Member Hampton also expressed appreciation to the City and PUSD for their collaborative work on the project, and stated that, in terms of local hiring, it is important to note that the contractor for the project is a local contractor.

On order of the Vice President and Mayor, the information was received and filed.

CLOSING COMMENTS


Member Kenne expressed appreciation to Mayor Bogaard and Members Cooper, Selinske, and Rahn for their past service, as each member will be leaving their respective seats at the end of the current term of office in May 2015.

The Mayor noted that Blair High School Culinary Academy students had prepared and served dinner to the City Council and Board of Education prior to tonight’s joint meeting, under the guidance of Donnetha Wallace, Culinary Arts teacher. He

also expressed appreciation for the collaborative work of the PUSD and the City, and specifically recognized the hard work and dedication of the City Manager, Michael Beck, and PUSD Superintendent Brian McDonald.

ADJOURNMENT

Following discussion, on order of the President and Mayor, the special joint meeting of the City Council and Pasadena Board of Education adjourned at 8:41 p.m.



Terry Tornek, Mayor
City of Pasadena

ATTEST:



City Clerk