

SAN JACINTO COLLEGE DISTRICT
Board of Trustees Retreat Minutes
May 19, 2015

Members Present: Marie Flickinger, Brad Hance, Dan Mims, Keith Sinor, Dr. Ruede Wheeler, Larry Wilson

Absent: John Moon, Jr.

Others Present: Brenda Hellyer, Bryan Jones, Ken Lynn, Mandi Reiland, Frank Rizzo, Ron Rucker, Steve Trncak

- I. The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m. by Dan Mims.
- II. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Section 551.074, the Texas Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:

Personnel Matter

Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer or employee or to hear complaints or charges against a public officer or employee

The board entered closed session at 3:33 p.m.

- III. The Board reconvened in open meeting at 3:43 p.m.
- IV. Update on 2015 Building Program
 - a. Brenda Hellyer gave an overview of the reference notebook that was distributed to the Board.
 - b. Brenda gave an overview of the contracts with Rizzo & Associates. They have two contracts, one being for the 2008 bond program management and the second being the 2015 building program feasibility and assessment.
 - c. The Board discussed getting qualifications and pricing for management of the 2015 bond program. The Board discussed reviewing the top choices but not being involved in the interviews.
 - d. Brenda reviewed prioritization process. The color coded areas on the handouts defines the priority level maintained throughout the prioritization process. Brenda noted that District means district wide and college wide support. North Pasadena will be coming off of the list because other options are being considered such as a partnership with neighborhood centers.
 - e. Brenda mentioned she has asked Tom Downs to research funding options for outreach efforts in North Pasadena.
 - f. Marie Flickinger asked what provisions are being made for the expansions of the early college high schools. Brenda answered we are building enough classroom capacity for the next several years. The issue will be the food service

- requirements which will be addressed with contingency dollars.
- g. Larry Wilson asked if the Pasadena or Galena Park Early College High Schools are separate or merged in with the college students. Brenda explained that the Pasadena and Sheldon ECHS's are separate for the first two years at their independent school district (ISD) campuses while the last two years are on our college campuses. They have teachers and principals or coordinators at our campuses. Galena Park's ECHS will open Fall 2015 and will be housed on North Campus under a model similar to Clear Horizons at South Campus.
 - h. Several Board members would like for Tom Downs to see if there is any federal help food service related costs for Early College High Schools.
 - i. Frank Rizzo reviewed the cost estimate process. Which included the construction cost versus total project costs, reasonableness of cost estimates, and impacts on costs.
 - j. Dr. Wheeler suggested that the Chancellor contact Roy Montalbano with PBK. Brenda talked with him and requested information from him. He sent information on why construction costs are rising. This information was distributed in the Board's reference notebook.
 - k. Dr. Wheeler asked about the difference between ISD buildings verses college buildings. Frank explained that we are not building to the same standards as an ISD. We are building to the current standards of San Jacinto College. Brenda asked the Board to consider what standards they would like for the College to be including in our building program. The standards were increased during the 1999 bond program and we have continued to maintain those through the 2008 bond program. Brenda stressed the importance of facilities and programs attracting students.
 - l. Frank explained that he can show the indicators for the projected costs used in the 2015 building program. He stated that we cannot go out for a bond without including estimated cost escalation.
 - m. Dan stated that we want students to want to come to San Jacinto College, not settle for it. In order to attain this, we have to build great buildings. We don't want to build buildings that look like high schools; we want them to look like a college.
 - n. Marie asked what our reserve funds include. Ken Lynn said the amount was \$74 million including designations. Brenda stated we will be adjusting some of the designations because of GASB 67, which will require recording a restricted designation for State pension liability.
 - o. Larry asked about the amount of the bond, \$395 million versus \$437 million and will the public perception be different.
 - p. Brenda explained that we hired Bob Stein in the last bond to run surveys. She has spoken to him and he is working on that information for this bond. We are anticipating results in July.
 - q. Ruede asked how we can make sure we are keeping our cost per student down. Also, he asked how much will the operational costs go up? Brenda will provide information at a future meeting.
 - r. The presentation from Ron Rucker on the History of San Jacinto College Expansion was postponed until next meeting.

- V. Wrap-up with Summary for Follow-up
 - a. Brenda asked what concerns the Board has. Larry Wilson, Brad Hance, and Dr. Wheeler expressed concerns related to dollars specifically set aside for Generation Park. Expansion in that area needs to be based on tax growth in the northern part of our taxing district.
 - b. The Board requests that we justify the bond amount and concerns were expressed over the connector building.
 - c. Discussions were had about a \$20 million contingency that could cover Generation Park or other growth items as needed. Marie suggests a contingency in the bond and she feels comfortable with \$30 million.
 - d. Timeline- The Board agreed to cancel the Building and Finance Committee Meetings on June 23 (Brenda Hellyer has to be out of town for the AACC Future Leadership Institute Conference). Another retreat was scheduled for the morning of June 12 to address additional concerns. The finance committee meeting was rescheduled for June 30 at 5:00 p.m. The items from the cancelled building committee meeting will be discussed at the July Board Workshop.

- VI. Adjournment – 5:38 p.m.