Emery Unified School District Guiding Principles
We Hold High Academic, Social, and Professional Expectations
We Create a Sense of Family
We Inspire and Support Innovation to End Racist and Classist Practices

Citizens Oversight Committee (COC)

Measure J and the Emeryville Center of Community Life (ECCL)

Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Billiards Room, Emeryville Senior Center – 4321 Salem Street

COC members present:

Lisa Carlisle
Brian Carver
Elizabeth Cooley
Shirley Enomoto
Mitchell Fine
Ronald Henry
Judy Inouye
Joy Kent
Marcelline Krafchick
Dave Martinez
Charlie Schuman
Rodney Wong
Frank Aalbers
Tom Rauch
Barbie Robinson

COC members absent:

Kelly Maddox
Andrea Sanchez-Cortez

Others present:

Nora Davis
Ken Bukowski
Melinda Chinn
Roy Miller
Pat Hooper
Cheryl Webb
Sharon Wilcher
Charise Calone
Elaine Nielsen
Arturo Taboada (Alma Strategies)
John Sugiyama (EUSD Superintendent)
Miguel Dwin (EUSD School Board President)
Melinda Chinn (City of Emeryville)
Roy Miller (EUSD Architect)
Hayin Kim (EUSD Dir. of Youth & Community Engagement)

1. Brian Carver: Introduction of Elaine, EUSD CBO

2. Facilitated conversation on community engagement

Margit Birge, a trained facilitator, will guide a constructive conversation amongst COC members with the goal of providing input to the School Board and City/Schools Committee on defining and establishing a process for community engagement.

- Introduction: to have input to give to the Board so they can work on the community engagement resolution;
- Review of group norms
- Introduction of history wall activity: what are the different experiences and stories of different people in this community (some comments noted here)
    - RH: the influx in the timeline of the tax revenue and companies etc; impacted revenues in the city and the development of the city
    - FA: nothing important/interesting in Emeryville before 1980, from looking at the timeline; a lot of things started happening in the 80s, according to the timeline
    - JK: lots of large companies that have companies here – wham! Jamba juice, peets
    - Thinking about that influx of business, etc.
- Community engagement as a 2 way process; providing information <-> getting input; **SEE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NOTES FOR COC BRAINSTORM**
    - WHO do we need to involved?
    - WHAT will we do to engage them?
- Brainstorm: What communities am I a part of? **SEE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NOTES FOR COC BRAINSTORM**
    - What groups do I feel comfortable hanging with?
    - Who do I connect with when I'm new to a school, neighborhood, workplace?
        - E.g. MOM, left-handed people, etc.
    - What will we do to get information to these groups? What will be do to get their impact?
- Beginning list for board; including staff input and expertise; **SEE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT NOTES FOR COC BRAINSTORM**
    - Getting INPUT
    - For JULY consideration at a special Board meeting – board resolution
- John Sugiyama
    - There is work happening during the summer; to incorporate
    - Staff has worked on one strategy to work on community engagement; it was agendized for the June 6th board meeting and was recommended to bring to the COC; are taking this to the board on June 27th;
    - Needing to work out logistical things:
        - Procedures that are used for the school district/board; need to work with Dr. Lindo in moving forward
        - COC members (like the Board) should not direct staff and requests should go through the Superintendent
- Hayin presents ECCL Fellows program;
    - MF – can the committee take some of the functions of the Fellows in order to take down the $72k?
    - John Sugiyama – to build a building is easy; to transform the community in a fundamentally different way is difficult; the issue of community engagement was part of the ballot measure, not just because it's the right thing to do, but in the course of giving input it is about transforming the ways they get involved in the community; understanding the depth of it; it's hard to stand that goal when people get immersed into the details;

- JK – how many fellows does that "get" – a number of students, staff to take on that role; same with business and community; as far as community fellows; relatively few
    - BC – needing to be more informed to be an effective community steering committee; don't see it as a construction project expenditure;
- LC – just like Dr. Sugiyama said, this is not just about a building, it's about other work to transform the community; to take that out is a setup to not be successful; we absolutely need broad and diverse engagement; we need to stick and stay focused on our work – about review and not previewing;
    - Our role is not to be ***doing*** the work of the superintendent and the board; I'm afraid that we are going to be derailed
- MK – I think we need an extra meeting to get more momentum
    - Joy – me too
    - Brian – scheduling might be difficult
- John Sugiyama – the facility becomes the context for which we bring the community in; in the bond language, it was explicit that community engagement would be an explicit part of the project;
    - As the outgoing superintendent; it's important for the COC to be informed about what this project really is; not sure if you know the vision or intention
    - I will agree with the project that in order for the COC to do its duties, you need info
    - If this committee feels that there is some basic information on community schools that we can provide;
    - It is critical that this body does not confuse information about the project about what this COC's role and responsibility is; the potential risk is that with that information you may get into areas that are not your role and divert staff attention and time
    - Staff no more wants to use Measure J funds about project appropriateness no more than anyone else; we talk to bond counsel; whether you agree with that or not, is another issue
- BC – does bond counsel approve of this? Is it documented?
- MF – explicitly stated that the COC ensures that it happens; need to be able that this happens
- John Sugiyama – staff can't report to 2 bodies; ultimately the staff reports to the school board and the school board holds staff accountable. Staff goes to the board and it is not the role of the COC to take up.
- RW – the items brought up have relevance and we need to go over this at another meeting; it is a project that is noteworthy and all the goals, people are still getting their feet wet and they want to look at this;
- BC – need another meeting to talk about these things;
    - Subcommittees as the first item on the next agenda – to determine who are "We" as a group; not the idea to dictate but what do we want to do with it
    - Confusion about agenda setting – any member of the COC who wants to put something on the agenda can do so; if there's something that we want to talk about, they can, no one is going to stand in their way
    - John Sugiyama – as process, items should go to the chair and he will discuss with the superintendent.
    - Hayin will try to set another meeting by doodle
    - Wish that the community was here to do give comment; especially around principles for public participation;
- John Sugiyama – will add the COC to the school board mailing list
- BC – City Schools reporting items for 7/7

        - Had a conversation about community engagement led by a facilitator
        - Heard about the fellows program
        - Support and concerns were heard
        - Tried to have more frequent items
    - Suggestion for next Wednesday night, 6/22 – will see people's schedule via the doodle scheduler;

3. Approval of minutes for May 18, 2011 meeting – **POSTPONED TO NEXT MEETING**

4. Additional items for discussion (as time allows) – **POSTPONED TO NEXT MEETING**
    a. Clarification of COC roles and responsibilities to review Measure J expenditures
    b. COC Subcommittee structure proposal
    c. Presentation of information about the ECCL Fellows program

5. Comments on items not on the agenda

6. Adjournment: 8:15 PM