



Washoe County School District School Naming Committee Meeting Minutes

October 10, 2018

1. Opening Items

1.01 Call to Order

The meeting of the School Naming Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m. in the WCSD Central Administration Building, 425 E. Ninth Street, Board Room, Reno, Nevada.

1.02 Roll Call

Committee Members Elisabeth Genasci, Clyyine Cook (name spelled incorrectly on agenda), Frank Perez, Jennifer Hampton, Mercedes De La Garza, Alyson Castro, Madeline Osterman, Scott Benton and Victor Sherbondy were present at roll call. Carly Lott arrived at 5:32pm. Renee martin was absent. Staff Liaison Riley Sutton was also present.

1.03 Public Comment

There was no public comment given.

1.04 Action to Adopt the Agenda

Motion from Mercedes De La Garza, second by Elisabeth Genasci to adopt the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Items for Discussion, Presentation and/or Action

2.01 Discussion and Possible Approval of the Minutes from the February 7, 2018 School Naming Committee meeting

Motion moved by Elisabeth Genasci, second by Mercedes De La Garza.

Motion moved by Elisabeth Genasci to amend her motion as it was discovered that the date on the header for the February 7, 2018 Naming Committee notes was incorrect and will need to be updated as well as a last name spelling correction to committee

member Jennifer Hampton. Second by Mercedes De La Garza. Motion carried unanimously.

2.02 Introduction of New Committee Members

The School Naming Committee has three new members for the 2018-19 committee year. Victor Sherbondy, Madeline Osterman and Scott Benton introduced themselves to the committee.

The other members on the committee then introduced themselves as well.

2.03 Discussion and Possible Action to Select a Committee Chair for the 2018-19 committee year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the current membership: Scott Benton, Victor Sherbondy, Madeline Osterman, Elisabeth Genasci, Carly Lott, Jennifer Hampton, Alyson Castro, Clyyde Cook, Mercedes De La Garza, Frank Perez, Renee Martin

Staff Liaison Riley Sutton explained to the committee how it is customary to entertain new chair positions on a yearly basis. Deputy Chief General Counsel for the Washoe County School District, Chris Reich, followed up with a few specifics regarding committee chair nominations.

Carly Lott recommended Frank Perez for a second term. Mercedes De La Garza recommended Elisabeth Genasci. Chris Reich clarified to the group that each member of the committee could nominate only once. Frank Perez commented that he believes that Elisabeth Genasci has served as an excellent Vice Chair, so he would be supportive of her position as Committee Chair. Elisabeth Genasci stated that she would be interested in taking the Chair position, but would also accept Frank's second term if that is what the committee decided.

Motion by Mercedes De La Garza, second by Jennifer Hampton to select Elisabeth Genasci. Motion carried unanimously. Elisabeth Genasci assumed the role committee chair effective immediately.

2.04 Discussion and Possible Action to Select a Committee Vice-Chair for the 2018-19 committee year beginning July 1, 2018 and ending June 30, 2019 from the current membership

Newly selected Chair, Elisabeth Genasci, asked the committee members if anyone had any specific Committee Vice-Chair nominations.

Carly Lott recommended Frank Perez. Mercedes De La Garza recommended Clyyde Cook.

Motion by Frank Perez to select Clyyne Cook to be the Committee Vice-Chair, second by Jennifer Hampton. The motion carried unanimously. Clyyne Cook is selected as the new Committee Vice-Chair effective immediately.

2.05 Presentation and Discussion of Nevada's Open Meeting Law requirements

Deputy Chief General Counsel, Chris Reich, discussed the particulars of the Open Meeting Law manual (attachment), included in packet. He discussed the requirements of having a proper quorum, sticking to the items on the agenda, and when action can be taken in a meeting and when it cannot.

2.06 Presentation and Discussion about the Responsibilities of the School Naming Committee, which could include a discussion of the Committee Bylaws, Board Policy 1170 (Naming of Schools and Other District Facilities), and Administration Regulation 7110 (Naming of Schools)

Committee Liaison, Samantha Fredrickson, discussed with the committee the specific functions, purpose and roles of the committee, attendance requirements as a committee member and then briefly went over the three governing documents included in the packet: Committee Bylaws, Board Policy 7110 and Administration Regulation 7110.

Mr. Sutton followed up by stating that at any time, committee members are welcomed to ask him questions, ideas and/or suggestions via phone call or email.

2.07 Presentation and Discussion of the Washoe County School District's Plans for New School Construction and Other Capital Projects

Chief Facilities Management Officer, Adam Searcy, presented information to the committee on the major projects underway in our district. Using the Capital Program Timeline, Adam discussed the project order and locations of future school sites as well as current school repair projects.

2.08 Discussion and Possible Action on Community Name Submissions for the New Elementary School in Spanish Springs, the committee members' individual ranking of those submissions, and the creation of a semi-finalist list of no more than 10 names based on the individual rankings of the committee members to be considered at a future meeting for recommendation to the Board of Trustees

Riley Sutton went over a PowerPoint presentation for the process of naming a new school, for purposes of this meeting, the new elementary school in the Kiley Ranch area.

Mr. Sutton stated that the goal for today's meeting is to create a short list of semi-finalists that can be no more than 10 names, from the list provided, taken from the community input submissions. It is the goal of the committee to have this school named by the School Board's November 27th Regular Board Meeting.

Mr. Sutton confirmed with the committee that the previous unused finalists that were not selected will automatically roll over into the semi-finalist round for all future schools. Mr. Sutton also reiterated that the point totals are non-binding and that ultimately, the WCSD Board of Trustees has the final vote on all school names.

2.08 Public Comment

Chris Bender spoke in support of Marce Herz for the new Elementary School in Spanish Springs.

Randi Thompson spoke in support of Marce Herz for the new Elementary School in Spanish Springs.

Tim Henderson spoke in support of Sessions "Buck" Wheeler for the new Elementary School in Spanish Springs.

Bill Henderson spoke in support of Sessions "Buck" Wheeler for the new Elementary School in Spanish Springs.

2.08 Continued

Committee members each individually gave their suggestions for semi-finalist names, and discussed their choices. Committee members then gave their individual score totals (from scores in each of the individual categories) for each of these top names. Mr. Sutton totaled those complete committee scores.

Committee member Scott Benton asked for clarification on the 5 unused finalist names, if they should automatically include them on this semi-finalist list and how long they will remain on the rollover list. The names will remain indefinitely.

Committee Chair, Elisabeth Genasci, asked whether or not they should discuss geographic considerations, as this has been an issue in past meetings. Riley Sutton discussed that this will be better discussed after the initial selections have taken place

and they can determine whether the committee wants to push forward place names over individual names when the top names have been selected.

Committee members each individually gave their suggestions for semi-finalist names, based on personal preference and public comment. Committee members then gave their individual score totals (from scores in each of the individual categories) for each of these top names. Mr. Sutton totaled those complete committee scores.

Mercedes De La Garza proposed to remove the name Debbie Smith, as it has been previously discussed to have a future middle school name after her.

Scott Benton suggested that Marce Herz be moved forward, but only for the purpose of it being considered for a future school, not for the school currently being named.

Mercedes De La Garza motioned to amend her previous motion of having Debbie Smith removed from the list. Second by Carly Lott.

After input from committee member Jennifer Hampton, Mercedes De La Garza motioned to add Desert Valley to her original motion. Second by Carly Lott.

Motion by Mercedes De La Garza to create a semi-finalist list for the name of the new elementary school in the Spanish Springs area consisting of the following names: Marce Herz, Sessions "Buck" Wheeler, Elizabeth Morris, Evelyn Mount, Artemesia, Kiley Ranch and Desert Valley Elementary School, second by Clyyne Cook. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Closing Items

3.01 Announcement of Next Meeting: November 7, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the WCSD Administration Building, 425 East 9th Street, Board Room, Reno Nevada.

3.02 Public Comment

Todd Torvinen spoke to alert the committee that the family of Marce Herz was sitting in the audience.

3.03 Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business, Chair Elisabeth Genasci adjourned the meeting at 7:17 p.m.