



WASHOE COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 16, 2019

1. Opening Items

1.01 CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Zoning Advisory Committee was call to order at 5:36 p.m. in the Administrative Building Board Room 425 East Ninth Street, Reno, Nevada 89512.

1.02 ROLL CALL

Chair Beth Smith and members Polly Boardman, Christina Pearson, Adam Carpenter, Jason Shipman, Dana Galvin, Lorrain Toole, Jennifer Peterson and Melissa Boesen were present at roll call. Members Theresa Birchfield, Stephanie Hanna, Araceli Martinez and Sierra Clark were absent. Committee Liaison Dr. Paul LaMarca and staff were also present.

1.03 PUBLIC COMMENT

Pablo Nava Duran made general comment regarding rezoning.

1.04 ACTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA

On motion by Polly Boardman, second by Christina Pearson, the Zoning Advisory Committee approved the agenda as presented. (Yea: Beth Smith, Polly Boardman, Christina Pearson, Adam Carpenter, Jason Shipman, Dana Galvin, Lorrain Toole, Jennifer Peterson and Melissa Boesen) Final Resolution: Motion Carries 9-0

2. Items for Discussion, Presentation, And/or Action

2.01 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 18, 2019 ZONING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

There was no discussion.

On motion by Dana Galvin, second by Polly Boardman, the Zoning Advisory Committee approved the minutes of the Zoning Advisory Committee meeting of April 18, 2019. (Yea: Beth Smith, Polly Boardman, Christina Pearson, Adam Carpenter, Jason Shipman, Dana Galvin, Lorrain Toole, Jennifer Peterson and Melissa Boesen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries 9-0

2.02 DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECONFIRM THE RECOMMENDATION OF "OPTION E" ON APRIL 18, 2019 TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES THAT THE ATTENDANCE ZONE FOR THE NEW MARCE HERZ MIDDLE SCHOOL, SCHEDULED TO OPEN IN THE FALL OF 2020, BE ESTABLISHED TO INCLUDE SOME OR ALL OF THE FOLLOWING GROUPS OF STUDENTS; THE PORTION OF STUDENTS AT KENDYL DEPOALI MIDDLE SCHOOL WHO ATTEND OR ATTENDED PLEASANT VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; A PORTION OF STUDENTS AT KENDYL DEPAOLI MIDDLE SCHOOL WHO ATTEND OR ATTENDED BROWN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, presented "Option E," which was presented on April 18, 2019 to the Board of Trustees that the attendance zone for the new Marce Herz Middle School, scheduled to open in the Fall of 2020, be established to include some or all of the following groups of students; the portion of students at Kendyl Depoali Middle School who attend or attended Pleasant Valley Elementary School; a portion of students at Kendyl Depaoli Middle School who attend or attended Brown Elementary School. Some of the details discussed included:

- Pleasant Valley Elementary School students moving from Depoali Middle School to the new Marce Herz Middle School (at Arrowcreek)
- Moving a portion of Brown Elementary School outside of a proposed Rio Wrangler elementary school attendance zone moved to Arrowcreek
- Huffaker Elementary School to Pine MS
- New Elementary School at Rio Wrangler to open in approximately 2025/26

Chair Smith stated that there were no other schools on the agenda for discussion.

Member Jason Shipman asked about overcrowding at Brown Elementary School for 2020. Mr. Searcy replied that the opening of Marce Herz Middle School will alleviate overcrowding at DePoali Middle School not Brown Elementary School. Brown Elementary School would continue to look the same until a new elementary school is built in South Meadows.

Chair Smith and Member Christina Pearson, who is a Brown Elementary School parent, spoke about the kind of communications that went out parents about this meeting. Dr. LaMarca had met with the principal and immediately communications went out.

Public Comment:

- Pablo Nava Duran made a comment regarding the rezoning process and those options.
- Shannan Borsini, a Brown Elementary School parent, spoke in support of the fact that they will go to Marce Herz and her concern over high school rezoning.
- Susan Pansky: Is in favor of Option E

Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Ombudsman and Strategies Officer, reminded the committee and audience that discussion of the zoning of High Schools is the next item on the agenda. He also assured everyone that the District and the Committee remains sensitive to keeping communities together.

On motion by Christina Pearson, second by Jason Shipman, to accept the recommendation of Option E. (Yea: Beth Smith, Polly Boardman, Christina Pearson, Adam Carpenter, Jason Shipman, Dana Galvin, Lorrain Toole, Jennifer Peterson and Melissa Boesen.) Final Resolution: Motion Carries 9-0

2.03 INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION REGARDING HIGH SCHOOL REZONING INCLUDING A PROPOSED TIMELINE FOR COMMITTEE WORK, AND INFORMATION PERTAINING TO HIGH SCHOOL VARIANCES

Adam Searcy, Chief Facilities Management Officer, and Dr. Paul LaMarca, Chief Ombudsman and Strategies Officer, presented information about high school rezoning and explained that discussion about high school rezoning will begin the fall of 2019. They indicated that there are not enough high schools for single feeder from middle to high school.

Staff are working in conjunction with the District's Office of School Leadership and the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association (NIAA) related to logistics around rezoning. The NIAA is the governing body for high school athletics in the state of Nevada. It is being proposed that Freshman and Sophomore students would go to newly zoned school, while Juniors and Seniors would have option to remain at their school of origin. The rules related to athletics are very strict and must be communicated with parents.

Public Comment:

- Kelly Roper asked that the committee to delay Huffaker Elementary School rezoning due to the new Wild Creek school as she would prefer her children remain zoned for Reno High School rather than moving to Galena High School and impacting friendships. (Note: Ms. Roper submitted written comments that are attached to these minutes.)

- Gayle Miller stated that because she is a neighbor to the new Wildcreek High School location, she would like to be zoned for that school.
- Pablo Nava-Duran made comment regarding high school rezoning.
- Candace Lowery stated concerns over zoning of elementary and middle schools without considering high school; and asked if there were plans to expand Galena High School
- Shannon Borcini stated concerns about future after Marce Herz Middle School and whether there will be room for students at Galena High School; and stated her concerns over Galena High School being overcrowded by the time her kids are ready to go to high school.

3. Closing Items

3.01 ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING

There is currently no meeting scheduled.

3.02 PUBLIC COMMENT

Pablo Nava Duran thanked the Committee for their hard work and added that he realized these decisions were very difficult.

3.03 ADJOURN MEETING

There being no further business, Chair Beth Smith adjourned the meeting at 6:29 p.m.