



WCCUSD

CITIZEN'S BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Kathy Fleming
Vice Chairperson

Don Gosney
Chairperson

Cameron Moore
Secretary

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

11/14/18

Report-1

The Citizens Bond Oversight Committee has little to report to you tonight. We held our regular monthly meeting on October 24th.

Because staff is so understaffed, they were unable to provide us with our traditional financial reports. As you might imagine, since the primary function of the Bond Oversight Committee is to oversee the bond finances, when you don't have financial reports that oversight can be lacking.

The CBOC hosted an initial discussion of the role of the CBOC and whether we should sit back and just let things happen or whether we should persevere to fulfill the mandate we were given when Prop 39 was passed. This will be an ongoing discussion and when we have something more concrete to report, you'll hear back from us.

We still have a number of vacancies on the CBOC and need the help of the District to help get the word out to the community. In particular we need 1 each representative from Pinole, San Pablo the Building Trades, the WCCUSD Employee Unions as well as two representatives of the unincorporated parts of the District and two representatives from Richmond.

We have discussed, and will make a formal recommendation to the Board, for them to consider amendments to the Board Policies that will address the need for representatives from the Building Trades and the Employee unions. We will also ask you to consider whether we need two or just one representative from the unincorporated areas.

The CBOC does not believe it serves the interests of the District or this community when we reserve seats at the table when they may not be

WCCUSD

CITIZEN'S BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

warranted. It also does not serve anyone's interests when the seats sit vacant for, as one has now, for nearly a year without any interest in filling it.

We are also concerned that with the vast resources of the District, that they may not be making a good faith effort to get the word out to the varying communities that there are vacancies and even the purpose of the CBOC.

To help new members understand what the CBOC does—in very specific terms—we are assembling a Member Handbook. We will also look at training videos to share.

We see from tonight's agenda that the Board is looking at spending another \$3.9 million of the Bond Funds at Richmond High. The CBOC would appreciate learning about large expenditures like this beforehand rather than being surprised as we were tonight. It is difficult to oversee a project and provide advice when it's done months after the fact.

We have another CBOC meeting scheduled for November 28th and another for December 12th. We just learned, though, that the Board has recently scheduled their own meetings for those very same evenings. We base our schedule on the Board's schedule so we don't have to worry about hosting meetings where our Board Liaison cannot attend, where we don't have to worry whether we'll have staff participation, and where we, as members of the community, don't have to ask which meeting we'll have to blow off.

It's been brought up many times that the Board seems to think that the rest of the world—and their meetings—revolve around the whims of the Board and these are two examples. These certainly are not the first time that the Board or the District has scheduled critical meetings that conflict with the many other District meetings. Perhaps the if the Board wants to convince the community that they want the community involved, they'll look at a calendar before scheduling conflicting meetings. The CBOC has no authority to tell the Board or the District what to do but unless you want to

WCCUSD

CITIZEN'S BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

push away devoted public servants that want to help their community, you might consider the lives of the community before you take action.

I'd invite the public to our next meeting or two but, quite frankly, we don't know yet when we meet. We'll take a look at the etch-a-sketch of a District calendar, but if someone bumps it again, we're all going to be scrambling for a date and time when we can meet.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ron Gooney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping 'G' at the end.



WCCUSD

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

12/12/18

Report-2

We understand that the Board has a lot on their plate at this meeting so the report of the CBOC will be brief.

Because of the additional meetings the Board recently scheduled to conflict with previously scheduled meetings of the CBOC, we had to cancel and reschedule multiple meetings since the last report given to the Board.

We were actually supposed to host a meeting right now but...here we are instead.

We do, however, have a meeting scheduled for next Wednesday—the 19th. As a courtesy to the community, please don't schedule another meeting requiring us to cancel that meeting.

At this next meeting we expect to elect new officers who will take office in January.

We will also set our calendar of meetings for 2019. That will, however, be 100% dependent on the calendar that you adopt this evening.

Since history has shown that the Board calendars are wholly unreliable, the CBOC will discuss the option of holding our meetings on days other than Wednesday evenings. Perhaps—and this is not set in stone—in 2019 we won't have any scheduling conflicts with the Board.

The CBOC Audit Subcommittee recently teleconferenced with the Bond Program's auditors—Christy White for the Financial Audit and Moss Adams for the Performance Audit.

WCCUSD

CITIZEN'S BOND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

Since a part of the Performance Audit includes a review of the CBOC, I requested that they interview key members of the CBOC to ascertain the effectiveness of the committee representing the community's interests. Of specific interest, we expect the auditors to look into just how well the Board and the District work with the community's representatives on the \$1.8 billion Bond Program.

We completely understand that since the Board overextended themselves with financial commitments, they minimal funding for the staff dedicated to supporting the CBOC. The CBOC is doing everything we can to make up for the personnel shortfall but we still need for the District to provide us with information so we can do our job. This means this Board has to commit itself to the intent of Prop 39 which requires a Bond Oversight Committee AND the support necessary for it to do it's job. Unless this Board is hell bent on another Grand Jury investigation and another \$3 million Forensic Audit, perhaps it would be less embarrassing and significantly cheaper to provide the support we need. That's free advice for you to accept or reject.

Sometime in the next couple of weeks the CBOC will inspect Pinole Valley High, Lake Elementary, Fairmont Elementary and Valley View.

As with all meetings of the CBOC, the public is invited to attend next week's meeting. The meeting will be conducted at the Facilities Building at 1400 Harbor Way South in Richmond beginning at 6:00 PM.

