

UNADOPTED

**VENURA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
7-11 Advisory Committee
May 13, 2020
Minutes**

Call to Order

Ventura Unified School District held a teleconference meeting of the 7-11 Advisory Committee on May 13, 2020. The meeting was called to order by Chair Daniel Flores, 7-11 Committee Chair at 3:02 p.m. at Ventura Adult and Continuing Education Ron Halt Room via teleconference at: <http://bit.ly/TDCStudios>

Roll Call:

Committee Members Present: Stephanie Caldwell, Louis Cunningham, Jorge DeLeon, Daniel Flores, James Forsythe, Brad Golden, Tanner Shelton

Absent: Cheri Egbert, Gabriel Hagerty, Christina Montero

VUSD Support Staff Present: Terri Allison, Rosi Cortez, Dr. Jerry Dannenberg, Bill Elsenbaumer, Betsy George, Jackie Moran, Dr. Roger Rice

Adoption of Agenda

Betsy George requested amending the agenda to remove approval of January 21, 2020 and February 8, 2020 minutes. Minutes are not completed. Stephanie Caldwell motioned agenda be amended to approve only March 5, 2020 minutes, Jorge DeLeon seconded the motion. All in favor of adopting amended agenda. Absent: Cheri Egbert, Gabriel Hagerty, Christina Montero

Public Comments – none

Approval of Meeting Minutes – Brad Golden motioned March 5, 2020 minutes be approved, Tanner Shelton seconded the motion. All in favor of adopting minutes as presented. . Absent: Cheri Egbert, Gabriel Hagerty, Christina Montero

Washington School Property Discussion – Chair Daniel Flores requested clarification regarding the last three properties (Washington, Jewett and Sudden), and making determinations on surplus properties. The properties were deemed surplus before the 7-11 Advisory Committee process started, so he understands the only thing the district is requesting is input as to what the committee would recommend the district do with the remaining three properties. Betsy George confirmed the Washington School property was declared surplus in the mid 90s, as well as the farm plots, back in the 70s. Consequently, there was no need for the committee to make a recommendation on considering the property for surplus, but shared that the Board would appreciate committee input on use for property since the group is already assembled for the purpose of the other properties.

Dr. Perry Geue joined the meeting. He introduced himself as the Chief Financial Officer/Co-Administrator of the Ventura County Christian School, which established in 1993. The school’s lease ends in October 2021 after a two-year lease extension was agreed to. Dr. Geue shared that the property was in deplorable condition when they took it over. He shared they have invested approximately \$8 million into the facility and property, mostly through volunteer labor. He appealed for the district’s consideration of continuing to lease to the Ventura County Christian School, and to the committee so that the property retain its current form—keep the green space where fields are currently in use by the school for their athletic program. He shared that time didn’t allow for letters and appeals from students and families, otherwise would have received many. Dr. Geue commented that if housing were to be built on Hurst Avenue, the opportunity for sports would end. He mentioned Foothill Technology High School used the baseball field a few seasons. He reminded the committee that the Washington School is a historical building. If housing were to be built and property urbanized, it would be a shame. He would love to continue taking care of the building and keeping the property pristine and presentable for the community.

Chair Daniel Flores called for discussion. Tanner Shelton shared that he hoped the building would maintain its historical integrity and that what is in the best interest of the school district is what should be done—a decision made with the best financial implications. He commended Ventura County Christian School for being great and respectful tenants, but added the district should be doing what is most fiscally best for the district with revenues and the potential of the property, while also being sensitive to buildings. The committee's charge is to look out for the district's best financial implications. Jorge DeLeon reminded the committee that one of the neighbors at a previous meeting alluded to the idea of the property for housing. Mr. DeLeon believes there is room for sports and housing, so he would be in support of studying the property a bit more, and the possibility of subdividing the parcel.

Dr. Rice encouraged the committee to prepare a general statement of intent for the Board's consideration. The Board appreciates the committee's wisdom and feels they will honor recommendations, yet they still have the flexibility to determine what is going to happen with all the properties.

Chair Daniel Flores stated he felt Mr. Shelton said it best when he said the committee needed to give the school district the open-ended option to do what is best for them while being fiscally responsible. The committee resolved that they would leave decisions regarding future use of Washington School, Sudden and Jewett properties for the Board to determine.

Jewett & Sudden Estates - Chair Daniel Flores moved on to the other properties, which are already deemed surplus, and said the committee did not have much meaningful information to share. Jorge DeLeon didn't sense there was an overwhelming desire to keep any of the properties. Brad Golden shared the same reasoning as Mr. Shelton. He mentioned the Washington School building was beautiful, but in the end, whatever decision made needs to be made by the Board with the best interest of the school district in mind. It is beyond the committee's scope to determine what to do with the properties.

Betsy George mentioned the market analysis that was not shared with the committee so they don't have any solid information on the farm plots. She confirmed that she would have the analysis finalized and provided to the Board of Education before they make their final decisions on the properties. Tanner Shelton mentioned, for the record, there is still attention to agricultural education. He mentioned the Request for Proposal for a part of the Pacific High School property for an agricultural program. He repeated he felt the board could make the best decision regarding all the properties.

Preparation of 7-11 Advisory Committee Report to the Board Regarding Identification of Surplus Properties

Betsy George referred to a sample report that we could use to be fully compliant with Education Code. She proposed she and Rosi Cortez complete the first portion of the report, which provides a summary of the process--mostly compliance-based information regarding the committee and the meetings held. The committee can compose the presentation to the Board. Chair Daniel Flores shared a draft of a presentation already in the works. He felt the rubric, although not adopted, was an important aspect of making committee decisions. He would like to include the rubric in the presentation. Ms. George confirmed she would share it with him to include in the presentation already being composed.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the 7-11 Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, May 27, 2020, at 12:00 p.m., at Ventura Adult and Continuing Education, Ron Halt Room via teleconference.

Adjournment – Stephanie Caldwell motioned meeting adjourn and Lou Cunningham seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 3.39 pm.