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Education and Youth Services Advisory Committee
October 29, 2003
Emery Secondary School Library
Meeting Notes

Attending: Elizabeth Altieri, Angela Baranco-Mason, Lois Brown, Bob Canter, Marion Casey, Holly Coombs, Renita Cummings, Nora Davis, Henry Der, Melodi Dice, Miguel Dwin, Cheryl Fabio, John Flores, Forrest Gee, John Gooding, Patti Jeffery, Dick Kassis, Marcelline Krafchick, Anita Larson, Steve Rasmussen, Liana Rodegard, Joshua Simon, Tony Smith, Mary Stump, Ken Taylor, Suzanne Wallace, Ellen Whittom, Michelle DeGuzman, Joe Frantz, Mark Miller, Roy Miller, Melissa Sackett, Phil Tucker, Ruth Atkin, Bennett Miller, Jeffrey DePuy, Joyce Jacobsen

1. Welcome and Introductions.

EYSAC Chair John Gooding welcomed the group.

2. Citizens to be Heard.

Marcelline Krafchick shared a piece that she had written about the music performance at Anna Yates Elementary School.

3. Presentation on Collaborative for High Performance Schools

- Angela Baranco-Mason (EYSAC Member) introduced Shelly Rosenblum from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Angela emphasized the importance of thinking about the indoor air quality of our school facilities, especially given that we are located in a dense urban area where the outdoor air quality is not great. She urged EYSAC to consider these issues when developing the facilities master plan for the Emeryville Center of Community Life.
- Shelly Rosenblum spoke to EYSAC regarding EPA's voluntary program to improve indoor air quality in school facilities, called "Tools for Schools". He described that many of the suggestions in the Tools for Schools kits are common sense ways to address and improve indoor air quality in schools, which have a range of air quality issues.

4. Recognition of Henry Der, EUSD State Administrator

EYSAC Chair John Gooding informed the committee that EUSD State Administrator will be departing in November to assume a position with the Evelyn and Walter J. Haas, Jr. Fund. John Gooding presented a report recognizing the highlights of Mr. Der's achievements during his time at Emery Unified School District (see attached). He recommended that EYSAC present a Certificate of Appreciation to Henry Der for his outstanding contributions to the Emeryville community at the City-School Meeting of November 6, 2003. EYSAC unanimously approved this recommendation

5. Report from Town Meetings on Emeryville Center of Community Life

Staff provided the Summary of Dot Exercise Community Input on the Emeryville Center of Community Life to EYSAC member (attached). This report quantified the number of dots placed on each program option at the three community meetings.

Ellen Whittom summarized the Town Meeting process and Dot Exercise Input with the following comments:

- EYSAC held three town meetings during October. October 8 at Watergate, October 11 at Senior Center and October 22 at Civic Center.
- Total attendance (excluding presenters and EYSAC staff) was 66. Accounting for people who attended more than once, we reached 60 different people during the course of the 3 meetings.
- Purpose was two-fold. We wanted to bring people up to date on our efforts and progress during the past 2 years and share the vision of an Emeryville Center of Community Life. We also wanted to obtain input from meeting participants.
- List of potential programs was compiled from our EYSAC discussions over the past year, and included the input that we had received from our previous community and teacher surveys
- The meetings were well-received. People were interested and excited about our efforts and opportunities. They had good questions and great input. All participants seemed to like the "dot exercise" as a way of providing their input. Many participants expressed interest in joining EYSAC.

Observations

- EYSAC did a very good job of preparing program options. Every option on our list was supported by someone. There were several new program options suggested, but most fit within options that were already on the list.
- Many considerations will go into planning the Emeryville Center of Community Life. Just because a program option did not receive a lot of dots does not mean that it is not a critical element in the Center of Community. However, it is clear that options that received a large number of dots are very important to this community.

- EYSAC still needs to obtain additional input throughout the facilities planning process.

6. Member Comments.

Josh Simon commented on the write-in suggestions. He also stated that EYSAC's challenge is to fit all of the different uses together.

Nora Davis asked how this will all be brought together into different options. Roy Miller indicated that we will be preparing options, but that ultimately decisions would have to be made based on space and budget constraints.

Dick Kassis commented on the interest in a community theatre, art studio and music studio. He discussed the City's exploration of a cultural center on Park Avenue and commented that as we go through this process, we will need to decide what belongs in a cultural center and what belongs in the Center of Community Life.

Cheryl Fabio noted that we have focused on programs and asked what the specific building challenges are. It was explained that we intentionally have started by looking at programs and that we will now be moving into the phase of this planning process where we identify site options for facilities that can provide the programs that are needed/wanted in the Emeryville community.

Steve Rasmussen expressed the importance of including a Professional Development Center in the Center of Community Life. He suggested that we meet with stakeholders who might be interested in funding such a center. John Gooding and Nora Davis suggested that this might be appropriate for discussion at the Finance Subcommittee.

Ken Taylor urged EYSAC not to lose sight of the children who we are doing this for. He encouraged EYSAC members to observe Emery classrooms now and see what our children need.

Forrest Gee noted that there are a lot of program options on the table. He recognized that our needs will change over time and encouraged the group to focus on making our space flexible. He commented that our goal is to add more resources to serve our children better.

7. Adjournment

Following member discussion, the meeting was adjourned.