

Bend-La Pine Schools Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 12, 2020

Meeting Location:

To support Governor Brown's executive orders for social distancing, the Board of Directors conducted the regular School Board Meeting virtually, through Cisco Webex.

Board Members Present

Julie Craig
Carrie Douglass
Shimiko Montgomery
Caroline Skidmore
Melissa Barnes Dholakia
Amy Tatom
Stuart Young

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Co-Chair Craig, roll call followed.

Public Input

There was no public input.

Consent Agenda

Melissa Barnes Dholakia moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Amy Tatom seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Reports

❖ **Wishcamper Development Partners – Affordable Housing Development**

Superintendent Mikalson introduced Tyson O'Connell with Wishcamper Development Partners and Lynne McConnell with the City of Bend to share about Wishcamper Development Partners' affordable housing project, Stillwater Crossing Apartments, and their request for property tax exemption.

O'Connell and McConnell thanked the Board for their time and shared about Stillwater Crossing Apartments which, once complete, will provide 240 affordable apartment homes in SW Bend near SW Atwood Drive and HWY 97. The project is set to begin in August 2020 and be completed in April 2022. McConnell said the City of Bend is in support of this project and encouraged Board members to support the request for property tax exemption. Discussion ensued on the project, accessibility, safe routes to school and the monetary impact to the district. Mikalson noted a similar request was approved by the Board in 2016.

Co-Chair Craig said she supports the need for affordable housing and feels the monetary impact is minimal considering the number of community members and students this could positively impact. Caroline Skidmore shared her appreciation for the project explanation and said she is supportive of providing more affordable housing options. Shimiko Montgomery agreed, adding affordable housing now, more than ever, will help support families in crisis and she too is supportive of the project and request.

Action Items

❖ Resolution 1897 : Wishcamper Development Partners Property Tax Abatement

Co-Chair Craig noted the resolution in the Board packet and thanked O'Connell and McConnell for their time and informative prestation. She appreciates the efforts to provide more affordable housing options.

Amy Tatom moved to approve Resolution 1897 : Wishcamper Development Partners Property Tax Exemption. Caroline Skidmore seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

❖ High Desert Education Service District (HDESD) Bend-La Pine Schools Board Position Election

Co-Chair Craig noted the executive summary in the Board packet and said Peggy Kinkade, who is currently serving in this role, was the only applicant for the position. Kinkade's application materials were included in the Board packet and Craig shared her support for Kinkade to continue.

Amy Tatom moved to elect Peggy Kinkade to serve as Bend-La Pine Schools' Representative on the High Desert Education Service District Board of Directors. Shimiko Montgomery seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

❖ Desert Sky Montessori Charter Contract Renewal

Superintendent Mikalson noted the executive summary in the Board packet as well as the proposed charter renewal contract and offered to answer any questions. There were no questions or discussion. Mikalson shared his support for Desert Sky Montessori's Charter Contract renewal.

Melissa Barnes Dholakia moved to approve Desert Sky Montessori's Charter Renewal Contract as presented. Shimiko Montgomery seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

❖ Resolution 1898 : 2019-20 Supplemental Budget

Brad Henry reviewed the executive summary in the Board packet as well as the proposed supplemental budget and offered to answer any questions. There were no questions.

Shimiko Montgomery moved to approve Resolution 1898 : 2019-20 Supplemental Budget as presented. Amy Tatom seconded the motion. Unanimous approval.

Discussion Items

❖ Superintendent Search

Co-Chair Craig shared that she, Co-Chair Douglass and Melissa Barnes Dholakia had an opportunity to connect with HYA & Associates about how to proceed with the superintendent search. HYA is committed to completing the search and Craig asked Board members for thoughts on how they would like to move forward. Discussion ensued on when to possibly resume the search, how COVID-19 may impact the search and elements of the interview process, reopening the application timeline while also considering those who have already applied, and the possibilities of continuing with an extended interim. Co-Chair Douglass noted that there will be Board positions as part of the May 2021 election and would like to take that into consideration as the Board decides on next steps.

Lora Nordquist said she is willing to support the district in whatever capacity the Board feels is appropriate. Craig suggested the Board continue this discussion as part of the May 26 Special Session.

Board Comments

Melissa Barnes Dholakia shared her appreciation to all staff members for their tremendous efforts during uncertainty. She is looking forward to planning for the next school year and said she will send out some reading to Board members in preparation for the visioning discussion on May 26.

Amy Tatom thanked staff members for their continued efforts and feels that these past weeks have proven more than ever, the value of educators and increased the respect for education as a whole.

Caroline Skidmore also shared her thanks to teachers and staff members for their continued efforts and shared a communication she recently received that could assist with funding for electric school buses.

Shimiko Montgomery thanked Nordquist for her commitment and dedication to the district's future and is thankful with Superintendent Mikalson leaving, there is a continuation of great leadership.

Co-Chair Craig also thanked staff members for their continued efforts and is looking forward to next school year and a return to some form of continuity and connection. She is hopeful that teachers and schools will be prepared for students who need time and support to catch up.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.

Recorded by: Andrea Wilson

Approved at 6.10.2020 board meeting