

Minutes City Council's Education Partnership Committee February 8, 2010

Minutes of the meeting of the City Council's Education Partnerships Committee held on Monday, February 8, 2010, 3:30 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Ben Arredondo, Chair
Councilmember Joel Navarro

City Staff Present:

Jan Hort, City Clerk	Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Mgr
Shauna Warner, Neighborhood Sv	David Park, City Atty
Kathy Berzins, Social Svcs	Michael Collins, PD
Mari Yennie, Comm Rel	

Guests Present:

Bill Munch, Tempe Elementary School Dist	Stephanie Salazar, ASU
Art Tate, Superintendent, Tempe Elementary School Dist	David Schauer, Kyrene School Dist
Steve Adolph, Tempe Elementary School Dist	Brittany Williams, ASU
Barbara Khalsa, Rio Salado College	Kelly Alexander, Kyrene School Dist
Kate Hanley, TCC Exec Dir	Lynette Stonefeld, TCC, Communities in Schools
Sharon Doyle, TIE	

Councilmember Arredondo called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m., and everyone introduced themselves.

Agenda Item 1 – Review of Committee Work Plan

Councilmember Arredondo stated that in difficult economic times, police and fire services remain essential; however community services, and parks and recreation programs are also essential components to a healthy environment. Councilmember Navarro added that the City is currently working on enhancing city parks and improving the aesthetics of right-of-ways, creating a unique distinctiveness and atmosphere.

The next meeting will be held at the Rio Salado Conference Center
The final committee meeting will be held at the Family Resource Center – Kyrene

* Items have been completed through December 14, 2009 meeting

Action Items:

1. **Enhance the relationship of and foster partnerships between educational entities, educational non-profits and the City of Tempe.**
 - Schedule joint meetings between the City Council and the School Boards.

- Coordinate lobbying efforts with all educational entities.
- Support ASU's Center for Off-Campus & Commuter Student Services.

2. Enhance communication and information sharing and dissemination.

- Utilize existing forms of communication such as Channel 11, Tempe Today and school distributions to promote education partnerships.
- Utilize schools to distribute city information to promote services and solicit community participation.
- Develop linkages between City and school district staffs to promote service, programs and information.
- Partner with schools to create public service announcements about substance abuse, teen depression and suicide and teen sexual behavior.

3. Identify and facilitate resource sharing between all educational entities, educational non-profits and the City of Tempe to maximize resources and improve services.

- Seek opportunities of joint use of ASU sports facilities for local programs.
- Facilitate internships for High School students with the Chamber of Commerce, City, Higher Education and Tempe Businesses.
- Help create a Community Mentoring Program.
- Grow Nike Reuse a Shoe Program to include collection locations at schools.
- Continue to provide school resource officers.
- Review progress of Wi-Fi in schools.
- Help promote a Career /Education Fair event.
- Provide security (park rangers) in parks adjacent to schools.
- Aid in the promotion of art programs in the schools such as Art Masterpiece and Studio Artists.
- Partner with non-profits and schools in providing suicide awareness training.
- Explore expanding tutoring programs for Kid Zone utilizing grant funding from sources such as NCLB (No Child Left Behind).
- Improve and enhance Kid Zone partnerships.
- Facilitate collaborative purchasing with the City, Schools, University and Community Colleges' purchasing departments.
- Continue to provide school ground maintenance partnerships.

4. Facilitate and develop services to provide life-long learning opportunities, including workforce development, drop out prevention, special education, literacy programs and visual and performing arts education.

- Aid in the expansion drop out prevention programs.
- Facilitate discussion and possible creation of a cognition remediation program.
- Explore ways in which the city can assist in improving middle school achievement.
- Support and explore opportunities to expand arts participation for citizens of all ages.

5. Identify and facilitate joint facilities development for school-resident use (e.g. North Tempe Multi-Generational Center) and joint transportation solutions.

- Encourage mass transit use by school staff and students.
- Promote Walk to School programs.
- Investigate partnering opportunities for lighting ball fields.
- In conjunction with the Transportation Council Committee, review the development and implementation of transportation programs to assist Tempe students.
- Promote bike safety to students.

6. Advance community services and programs in collaboration with educational entities serving Tempe.

- Coordinate human and social services programs and resources between schools and the City where appropriate.
- Address human and social needs beneficial to schools and the City.
- Review the disbursement of Unity Grant Funds from Tempe Community Council to Tempe High Schools.
- Seek improvement of neighborhood schools through communities' in-schools programs.

Councilmember Arredondo stated that Toyota has volunteered to fund disability access improvements to a church in Victory Acres neighborhood. As a result, this facility will be able to be accessible as a neighborhood polling location.

Agenda Item 2 – Community Use of School Playgrounds

Mark Richwine stated that City legal representatives have been meeting with the school district legal counsel to work out the details of allowing the community to utilize school playgrounds when school is not in session. David Park stated that the City forwarded to the school district counsel a draft agreement comprised of two components:

- 1) *Scheduled use terms* – city could use the school fields and permit these facilities in the same way that city park facilities are permitted by staff. In turn, the schools will be able to schedule use of the City's athletic outdoor fields. The City will cover and pay for any costs associated with the permitted use of school facilities; the school district would be responsible for the same in exchange.
- 2) *Public access terms* – to allow the public to utilize school playgrounds when school is not in session.

The response from the district counsel was to break down the proposed agreement into two categories:

- 1) *Joint use terms* – originally presented as scheduled use by City staff, terms primarily accepted as presented.
- 2) *Public use terms* – this agreement was modified and substantially different than the version submitted by City staff. Two differences to the proposed agreement: 1) the City accepts all costs associated with the public use, including damage to facilities; 2) joint sharing of maintenance costs for school grounds that are used by the public.

Given the current budget situation, Mr. Park stated that City officials had not anticipated the costs associated with the district counsel's maintenance of school playgrounds. District counsel is scheduled to make a presentation to the three school boards on these facility sharing concepts.

Councilmember Arredondo asked staff to schedule an Issue Review Session presentation for March 25.

Agenda Item 3 – Tempe Coalition to Reduce Underage Drinking and Drug Use (Coalition)

Lynette Stonefeld reported that Coalition is a subcommittee of the Youth, Family and Communities Committee. Coalition activities are funded by a Magellan grant. The youth community is involved in the development of a logo and promotional materials for the Coalition, including a video and t-shirt contest.

The Coalition will be applying for a national Drug Free Communities Grant. If successful, this grant would fund programming at a \$125,000 level for up to five years.

Councilmember Arredondo directed staff to prepare correspondence to the Mayor and City Council stressing the meaningful relationship that has been established between school district representatives and City officials and the value that these programs bring to the community. This statement will then be read at an upcoming Council meeting in February by Councilmember Arredondo.

Councilmember Arredondo encouraged attendees to take a tour of the Tempe District High Schools and the successful programs that they provide to the community.

Agenda Item 4 – Future Agenda Items

- Open Horizons Update

Agenda Item 5 – Future Meeting Date

April 19, 2010 – Rio Salado Conference Center, 2323 W. 14th Street. Parking is available in the parking structure located to the west of the conference center.

Agenda Item 6 – Announcements

- Ketchakowa Classic Women's Softball Tournament – this is the largest single women's softball tournament in the country. This program is exploring expanding its realm of participants to the high school student population.
- March 5 – Preschool funding event located at the Tempe Historic Museum
- March 27 – School clothing drive
- Tempe District 3 has relayed their commitment to all day kindergarten, regardless of whether or not funding is forthcoming
- Tempe Union High School District enrollment has increased by 350 students
- February 13 – Sweetheart Ball at Tempe High School will be held at the Fiesta Inn

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Prepared by: Kay Savard

Reviewed by: Shauna Warner

Jan Hort
City Clerk