

Rochester Joint Schools Construction Board
Minutes
May 11, 2009
4:30 p.m.

Present:

Board members Kenneth Bell, Carolyn Vitale, Bob Brown, Randy Henderson, Richard Pifer, Emeterio Otero. Mr. Roulin unable to attend. Staff members Linda Dunsmoor, James Fenton, Andrew Wheatcraft, Rashondra Jackson, Jeff Eichner.

Chairman Bell convened the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of 4-27-09 by Mr. Brown. Second by Dr. Otero. Adopted 6-0.

Written Reports of Committees:

- M/WBE and Services Procurement – The committee met to discuss the RFP for Program Manager, identified action items and expects to have a draft for Board review in the next 30 days.
- Policy – Proposed Board policies include Conflict of Interest/Code of Ethics; Financial Disclosure; Board Duties and Responsibilities; Communications; Procurement. Mr. Eichner/Ms. Jackson to report on whether Board members need to file a Financial Disclosure Statement and if so can the city or district model be used. Ms. Dunsmoor to provide information on what Syracuse and Buffalo JSCBs did.

Unfinished Business:

- RFP for Independent Counsel: Ms. Jackson to provide final draft with language requesting that respondents articulate the number and percentage of minorities/females working in the firm, defined by role: attorney, partner, support staff. Document to be distributed electronically to Board members. No firms/individuals meeting requirements of RFP will be disqualified based on litigation status with City or District. RFP to be advertised in Daily Record, the City and District websites, and govbids.com.
- Independent Compliance Officer: Assemblyman David Gantt attended the meeting and discussed the role of ICO with the Board. It is to be a paid position. The legislative intent was not for the ICO to be a Board member. Assemblyman Gantt said he does not see a conflict of interest with the ICO being a non-voting member and being paid but if the Board does he will amend the Legislation. Jobs created by the projects should employ the city population and if he sees that it is not happening he will pull his money out, just like he did at Wilson Commencement Park. Assemblyman Gantt said the ICO will help ensure that city residents work on the projects, and pointed to Beverly Jackson's work on Rhino Park as a model. He also told the Board that it was created specifically to be independent and does not have to abide by any City or District directions. The issue was referred to the M/WBE and Services Procurement Committee. Board members to be provided with copy of enabling legislation.

New Business:

- Committees will schedule meetings using the provided calendar.
- Mr. Brown asked for clarification regarding the Open Meetings Law and Public Bidding law. Information to be provided to Board members.
- Ms. Dunsmoor to work with Office of State Comptroller on details of meeting proposed for June 22. Board members will provide questions for OSC prior to the meeting.

Communication

- Board of Education President Malik Evans attended the meeting to discuss the RJSCB's role as an agent of the City and District.
- Copy of letter signed by Franklin Montessori parents and staff distributed to Board.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Brown. Second by Mr. Pifer. Adopted 6-0 at 6:15 p.m.