

Villa Park City/Schools Committee

March 21, 2007

ACTION MINUTES

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- *Members introduced themselves. The following were in attendance: Carrie Hummel, Denise Bittel, Lisa Easterbrook, Mike Christensen, Lt. Chris Visconti, Carolyn Reichert, Mayor Rich Ulmer, Councilmember Deborah Pauly, City Manager Ken Domer. Councilmember Pauly introduced new member Carolyn Reichert (member of Villa Park Women's League and former administrator in OUSD)*
- *Introduction of Tom Galvan (New Sheriff Lieutenant for Villa Park) by Lieutenant Visconti*

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 21, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

Denise Bittel asked that two corrections be made:

- 1. The understanding establishing the Mission Statement, and*
- 2. Councilmember Pauly's comment to try to accommodate the OUSD Staff calendar in planning meetings be added.*

Councilmember Pauly suggested to bring back the minutes for approval at the April meeting because only two members were present from the previous meeting to agree to an accurate reflection of the minutes.

OLD BUSINESS

Mission Statement

There was a general discussion regarding the proposed mission statement and agreement of the wording of the mission statement could not be reached. Mrs. Reichert offered that suggested changes should be sent to Ken Domer before the next meeting.

Councilmember Pauly reiterated that changes be sent to Ken Domer, who would then send them out to everyone on the committee for their input in order to discuss the item in April.

Mayor Ulmer clarified that we would not be voting on the Mission Statement at the April meeting. Councilmember Pauly concurred and said that we would be considering all of the proposed changes at the next meeting and hopefully come up with a mission before the committee stopped meeting during the summer.

School Resource Officer

It was reported that Sheriff's Deputy Avalos was proposed to be the School Resource Officer (SRO) and that effective March 30th he was switching to a 4/10 work schedule to better cover school issues. The deputy position is the fifth contracted position for the City and was formerly used for the motor officer. City Manager Domer stated that it should be considered a pilot program at this time as more information and coordination is needed between the schools and City. In addition, the Committee needs to move forward to pursue funding to make the SRO position a reality.

City Manager Domer explained the funding for the fifth officer and how it has been conceptualized to use the position in a way more related to the schools. Accordingly, the City is looking to use the fifth deputy to cover the traffic and the schools, looking to partner with the school district to fund the SRO position.

Denise Bittel asked if the Villa Park principal knew about the proposed SRO. City Manager Domer stated it has been generally discussed but that it was wanted to bring the latest idea and availability of the SRO to the City/Schools Committee first, as it has been discussed at past meetings. The City Manager stated that the details of having an SRO had just been solidified in the past week and that he would then work with Mike Christensen and the acting Principal Ed Howard to work out the detail.

Councilmember Pauly acknowledged that there needs to be additional coordination between the district and the city to work out the details. It was agreed that this would be a "Pilot Program".

State of the School Proposal

Ms. Pauly reported that the City Council unanimously agreed to have the four Villa Park Schools give a state of the schools report (three minutes in length) on a rotating basis. The reports would begin in September with Serrano, Villa Park Elementary, Cerro Villa Middle School and Villa Park High School giving their report in that order. It would up to the school site to determine who would give the report.

Traffic Flow and Student Safety for Morning Drop Offs

Councilmember Pauly stated that she wanted to attack the problem of morning drop offs first because it is too difficult to attack all of the traffic problems at one time.

Councilmember Pauly observed the morning drop off at Serrano. She met with the volunteer parent who directs the drop off procedure. Councilmember Pauly reported her findings.

Councilmember Pauly asked Carol Kawanami (former Mayor of Villa Park) to speak about her observations three years ago at Villa Park Elementary. Councilmember Pauly asked that Mrs. Kawanami come to the April meeting with a 15 minute report of suggestions to correct the traffic problems at Villa Park Elementary.

Mayor Ulmer discussed what procedures were in place at his daughter's school in Redondo Beach to deal with traffic in and around her elementary school.

Traffic Study at Villa Park High School

City Manager Domer met with Bernie Dennis (a traffic engineer) and he stated the main cause of the traffic problem at VPHS is the eastern most parking lot in the front of the school. Mr. Dennis was going to take our traffic study information and meet with some other traffic engineers that week to get their collective opinion as to how to solve the traffic problems.

There were numerous ideas by the committee on how to solve the problem. Mr. Domer suggested that the committee allow Mr. Dennis bring forth some solutions.

NEW BUSINESS

U-Turn Sign at Bixby and Taft

It was discovered that the "No U-Turn" sign had been removed from the location. The City has now replaced the sign.

Meeting dates for the remainder of the year

Councilmember Pauly stated that this was a hot topic. She commented that when you set a date you realize everyone invited will not be able to attend the meeting. She commented that Sue (City of Villa Park) and Katherine (OUSD) tried to work out a meeting date for April but could not come up with a mutual date. Councilmember Pauly expressed frustration regarding an e-mail from Dr. Godley to the Principals telling them that they could not attend the March meeting because neither he, the OUSD Cabinet Members, or Board Members could attend.

Based on availability, it was decided Thursday, April 19 worked as well as the third Thursday of every month thereafter. There was an agreement to meet on this standard day of the month.

It was discussed that perhaps we should re-name this committee. It was agreed that the re-naming should be put on a future agenda.

OTHER ITEMS:

None

SCHOOL ROUND UP ITEMS

Denise Bittel gave a brief report about the My Space meeting and other activities at the school.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Jill Kuli spoke about the Rotary Awards Ceremony and invited everyone to attend.

Mr. Don Ebrite read a letter in the record regarding school safety and traffic items around VPES.

He had a petition signed by other residents in the vicinity. The letter is attached to these minutes. He is sending a copy of the letter to the City and the District.

Mrs. Jill Kuli spoke again and asked the City to review the parking signs around CVMS on Saturdays.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:37 a.m.