

Finance Committee meeting September 17, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 5:43 PM

In attendance: Bruce Bransom, Deborah Parrish, Venta Leon, Donna Clavaud, Terry Duffy, Paul Duffy, Sue Sims & Patty Oku.

Patty Oku moved that minutes for the June & July meetings be tentatively approved with email changes from attendees for those meetings if appropriate by email reply. Bruce Bransom seconded the motion and the motion passed, the ayes having it.

Review of projects:

Suggestion: Finance Committee 5 recommendations, in place contract were offered as topics.

Deborah, Bruce, Venta & Terry discussed the Finance Committee's five recommendations to the TVCSD Board in terms of actionable items. Participants to the discussion varied about how to order the five items with respect to priority. Donna, a deep thinker, was joined by another deep thinker, Bruce, in a sub discussion of item number two's wording, "proper" allocation. Donna acknowledged that "proper" might hold a negative connotation for some. Several people jumped in with varying alternative definitions of "proper," but we all seemed to sense that we were over-thinking our level of analysis given time constraints. Deborah's offered the hard fact that if anything should be properly allocated, it was certainly funds. We decided to table the analysis of "proper" for another day.

Deborah emphasized the importance of proper allocation of the \$242, 000 TVCSD revenue in regard to the actionable items and with regard to best practices, the segregation of duties and competitive bidding as the cornerstone of best practices.

Deborah made a motion that we order the five items in this order: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. Patty seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Terry asked the question: "How do we get the district to move on the letter that refers to the five items?" The reality is that a board member needs to make a motion for action and the motion must be seconded and passed by the board. Terry has observed that many things get presented to the board and very little action takes place in regards to items presented by the community. I acknowledged that I needed to be aware that any board member can make a motion to act in some way on items put forth by the community.

A spontaneous conversation mused at how administration should be managed. Perhaps a part-time bookkeeper, lower level administration, operations contracted to carry out some of the administration required by the State. A board stipend was thought to be an inducement to get community members to apply and fill board seats when they became vacant.

Deborah shared her hopes for the goal of increasing shared communication and reallocation of funds. Venta acknowledged that when the board began, no one had experience, but the board is becoming better educated through experience. Donna added that it is a natural process and the way things move upward.

Terry was acknowledged as standing by the district for many years.

The back and forth conversation noted the importance of goals and objectives, the importance of walking through each goal and objective determining how they will serve the community, not the board.

If the board does not address these concerns in the budget cycle, polarization will increase in the community. The need is to pull everyone together and listen and come up with other ways to address imperatives now. Talk should be the way.

Bruce suggested a special meeting with the board to discuss the Financial Committee's five recommendations. The new survey would also be available at the proposed special meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:33 PM.