

City of Palo Alto

Date: March 24, 2010

**MINUTES FOR MEETING OF March 24, 2010**Opening

The City/School Committee held a meeting in the Council Conference Room at 250 Hamilton Ave, Palo Alto. The meeting was called to order at 8:15 a.m.

\* All handouts can be viewed in the City Manager's Office 7<sup>th</sup> Floor 250 Hamilton Ave.

**City of Palo Alto Representatives Present:**

Greg Schmid, Chair of Committee, Council Member

\*Greg Scharff, Council Member

Steve Emslie, Deputy City Manager

David Ramberg, Assistant Director of Administrative Services

Lynda Brouchoud, City Auditor

Katie Whitley, Administrative Assistant

**Palo Alto Unified School District Representatives Present:**

Camille Townsend, Board Member

Dana Tom, Board Member

Cathy Mack, CBO

Carol Zepecki, Student Services Director

\*Council Member Shepherd was absent and Council Member Scharff filled in.

There were no oral communications.

Oral CommunicationsApproval of Minutes –  
February 24, 2010

MOTION: Townsend moved to approve the minutes from the February 24, 2010 meeting. Schmid seconded. Minutes were approved 4-0

Priority Setting and Meeting  
Dates

A list of the 2009 Meeting Agendas was passed out and reviewed by the Committee. Chair Schmid asked which items everyone wanted to carry over to the 2010 meetings. To

Townsend said looking at April for last year it has update from libraries and would like to have that on the agenda.

Tom said he wanted to have a standing item on the agenda for review of recent City Council and PAUSD Board meetings.

Townsend said she was at a Chamber meeting where the City Auditor gave a presentation on the Service Efforts and Accomplishments (SEA) report and thought it was extremely helpful. She suggested it would be beneficial to hear more and be able to take it back to the board.

Chair Schmid invited the City Auditor to make a presentation at an upcoming City/School meeting. It was agreed that Lynda Brouchoud, City Auditor, would attend the May City/School meeting and make her presentation. PAUSD would be invited to attend the meeting.

Chair Schmid wanted to touch on negotiations for Stanford. Emslie said in the last week in April the Draft EIR would be released. There would be 45 days to review and comment. Once the period is closed the response period begins and a detailed report is prepared that is scheduled to be released in the fall. Sometime in the October/November timeframe the hearings on actual entitlement begin and the final EIR will be released in late 2010.

Chair Schmid said that 45 days at the end of April would make it 30 days into the review period by the next City/School meeting. Emslie said they were considering extending the review period.

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Townsend said Stanford was on the agenda today and asked it what would be discussed under that item. Emslie said that the information on the timeline he just gave was what he had planned to discuss under that item.

Jean McCown from Stanford was present and said she and Stanford staff would do a presentation at a PAUSD Board meeting to provide updates on the timeline and for the Board to make formal comments. Townsend asked Tom to take the lead in coordinating with the superintendent.

Chair Schmid said there is an ABAG meeting coming up with the City Council so maybe in May an update could be given to this Committee.

Emslie said that Emergency Preparedness could be on the June agenda along with an update on Traffic Safety.

Chair Schmid asked if I-Net should be agendized. Emslie said an update could be provided.

The agenda for the next 3 months are as follows:

April 28 - Update on Mitchell Park Library  
Update on Teen Mental Health  
I-Net

May 26 – Presentation of the SEA Report from the City Auditor, Lynda Brouchoud  
Update on ABAG/Housing Issues

June 23 – Update on Emergency Preparedness  
Update on Traffic Safety

### Update on Teen Mental Health

Zepecki reported that last month the American Association of Suicide-ology conducted full day sessions with various groups and talked about the positive and detrimental reporting on suicides. She said the community felt this was a positive presentation.

Townsend asked what media coverage was at the seminar. Zepecki said that Greg Hermann from the City Manager's office would have a complete list. Emslie said all local media outlets were present.

Zepecki said that the Dr. Phil show wanted to a show on teen suicide and focus very specifically in this area. There was a great effort to make sure the show didn't spotlight Palo Alto. The producers came back a week later and agreed to cover a much broader spectrum. The question came up of who is the appropriate communicator for project safety net and they are working on finding the answer. They are exploring if there is any benefit to having an outside spokesperson.

Chair Schmid said he wanted to note that he was very impressed with Rob De Geus's work and response to this issue.

Zepecki said there is continued vigilance with the student watch. They got the ok from the state department to continue to try and enhance the 3 6 9 sessions for families.

Zepecki said the Youth Forums have provided an excellent voice for students and their needs.

Townsend asked if there was an update on Track Watch. Zepecki said getting donations continues to be a challenge because of outreach. They are looking into grants to fund this.

Chair Schmid said that meadow is guaranteed until fall. It's Charleston that is a challenge because that is a volunteer effort.

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Chair Schmid wanted to acknowledge that that Youth Forum was very impressive and had adult representation from Council, Boards and Commissions and a good connection was made.

Tom asked how local media is in line. Zepecki said there is still work to be done but progress has been made. They continue to work on communication in all areas and to provide a consistent message.

### Brief Discussion on City's Budget

David Ramberg, Assistant Director of Administrative Services, presented. He passed out copies of the Long Range Financial Forecast and said the economy has only worsened since this was published. He wanted to give the Committee a very high level look at what is coming up for the budget. He said they were able to close the gap in FY 2010 of \$6.3 million. He said sales tax has been one of the big challenges.

In FY 2011 column the picture gets worse. The net deficit is \$6.4 million and is likely to grow. On April 12 the City Manger will be presenting a preliminary budget to Council with all the options departments have been working on.

Townsend asked how the budget gets passed on a 2 year cycle. Ramberg answered that the second year generally has only light revisions unless there are major changes in revenue.

Townsend asked what the cycle is of all the labor groups. Ramberg answered that PAPOA is up in 2011, IAFF is set to expire in 2010 and SEIU was imposed to carry through 2010.

Chair Schmid said one important thing to point out during this budget process is that there are a series of budget outreach meetings planned for April to hear from the public what services are most valuable.

Ramberg said the tier 2 cuts that were not implemented in 2010 are being looked at across the board. The preliminary budget information would be included in the April 7 City Council packet for the Council meeting of April 12. The Finance Committee would see the City Manager proposed budget in early May and in late June the budget would be adopted.

Chair Schmid said the date of the packet release was changed from Thursdays to Wednesdays to allow more time for review of documents.

Townsend asked where a copy of the tier 2 cuts could be viewed. It can be viewed in the current FY adopted budget on page XI.

<http://www.cityofpaloalto.org/civica/filebank/blobdload.asp?BlobID=16681>

### Stanford Hospital

Emslie said the next 6 months there will be intensive interactions with the public.

McCown said there have been at least 2 meetings with PAUSD. She said the District stays in constant contact with Stanford regarding housing and that regular updates get sent to the demographer.

Scharff asked if the school was expanding at the hospital. McCown said there is some projected growth in the future. She said she could provide that at the meeting next week with the District. Next meeting April 28.

### Future Meetings and Agendas

### Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.