

MINUTES
SPECIAL CALLED SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
ALEXANDRIA CITY SCHOOL BOARD
December 8, 2016 (6:00 p.m.)

ROLL CALL

UPON THE ROLL BEING CALLED, THE FOLLOWING WERE PRESENT:

BOARD MEMBERS: Karen Graf
Christopher J. Lewis (participated in closed meeting by electronic means)
Cindy Anderson
Ronnie Campbell (arrived during the closed meeting)
William E. Campbell
Henry E. Cardwell (arrived during the closed meeting)
Ramee A. Gentry
Margaret Lorber (left before the certification of the closed meeting)
Veronica R. Nolan (arrived during the closed meeting)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Alvin Crawley, Jennifer Abbruzzese, Susan Neilson

Call to Order

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Graf

Chair Graf called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. All members of the School Board were present at the start of the meeting except for Ms. Campbell, Mr. Cardwell, and Ms. Nolan who arrived during the closed meeting and Vice Chair Lewis who joined the meeting by electronic means.

Adoption of Meeting Agenda

1. Adopt the Meeting Agenda for the December 8, 2016 Special Called School Board Meeting

Mr. Campbell moved to adopt the meeting agenda for the December 8, 2016 Special Called Meeting. Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

Mr. Campbell moved to add item FY 2018 Budget Calendar to the agenda in Old Business. Ms. Gentry seconded the motion.

The vote to add agenda item FY 2018 Budget Calendar was 5-0. The motion carried.

The vote to adopt the meeting agenda was unanimous, 5-0. The motion carried.

Ms. Anderson, Mr. Campbell, Ms. Gentry, Chair Graf, and Ms. Lorber were present and voted.

2. Motion to Allow Christopher Lewis to Participate Via Electronic Means

Ms. Gentry read the following motion:

Whereas Vice Chair Lewis has notified the Chair that he is unavailable to be physically present for tonight's Special Called School Board Meeting due to a personal matter, specifically the need to travel out of town on a work obligation; and whereas he has not participated in more than two Board meetings by electronic means during 2016; and whereas Vice Chair Lewis requests the opportunity to participate in the meeting via telephone conference call from New York, which conference call will be heard by all participants in this Board room; and whereas a quorum of the Board is physically assembled in this Board room. Therefore, Ms. Gentry moved that pursuant to VA Code § 2.2 -3801 (1) that the Board approve the participation of Vice Chair Lewis in the meeting by telephone call.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Lorber. The vote to allow participation by Vice Chair Lewis by electronic means was unanimous, 5-0. The motion carried.

Vice Chair Lewis joined the meeting by conference call and voice votes were recorded for him during the meeting.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

3. Closed Meeting

Ms. Gentry moved that the Board convene a closed meeting pursuant to VA Code § 2.2-3711(A)(29) for the discussion of the award of a contract involving the expenditure of public funds, and discussion of the scope of such a contract, where discussion in open session would adversely affect the bargaining position of the Board.

Ms. Anderson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0, to convene a closed meeting. Ms. Campbell, Ms. Nolan, and Mr. Cardwell were not present for the vote.

The Board moved into a closed meeting at 6:15 p.m.

4. Certification of Closed Meeting

Ms. Gentry moved that pursuant to VA Code § 2.2-3712, that the Board certify that to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened, and are lawfully exempted by the Freedom of Information Act, were heard, discussed or considered by the Board in the Closed Meeting held on December 8, 2016.

Mr. Cardwell seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 8-0, to certify the closed meeting. Ms. Anderson, Ms. Campbell, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Cardwell, Ms. Gentry, Ms. Graf, Ms. Nolan, and Mr. Lewis (by voice vote) voted. Ms. Lorber had left the meeting for the evening.

The Board reconvened in open session at 7:05 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

5. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Moment of Silence

6. Observe a Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

Communications & Addresses to the Board

7. Public Hearing on Redistricting

Greta Gordon, George Mason parent, spoke against moving Planning Block 73 out of the George Mason attendance zone.

Kristen Weber, Charles Barrett PTA President, spoke in support of Map Options #8 and #9 for Charles Barrett.

Cindy Million, George Mason parent, spoke against moving Planning Block 72 out of the George Mason attendance zone.

Catalina Rojas, Samuel Tucker parent, spoke in support of keeping Planning Block 22 in the Samuel Tucker attendance zone.

Xiao Boynton, citizen from Planning Block 72, expressed opposition to the current redistricting map options.

Aleck Johnson, spoke in opposition of the removal of students from the Polk attendance zone and being placed in the Patrick Henry attendance zone.

Katy Sokolove, Polk PTA President, spoke in opposition to the modifications to planning blocks that would remove students from the Polk attendance zone.

Arden Levy, George Mason parent, spoke in opposition of removing Planning Block 72 from the George Mason attendance zone.

David Jupiter, citizen from Planning Block 22, spoke in support of Map Option #8.

Jessica Buchanan, George Mason parent, expressed concerns about splitting Valley Drive into two different school attendance zones.

Benjamin Kennedy, Jefferson-Houston parent, encouraged the Board to redraw lines for Jefferson-Houston.

Peter Whelan, parent from Planning Block 100, encouraged the Board to reject the current redistricting proposals and redraw attendance lines for Jefferson Houston.

Colin Chaperon, George Mason parent, spoke in opposition of removing Planning Block 72 from the George Mason attendance zone.

Pamela Kesner, citizen from Planning Block 63, spoke in support of Map Options #8 and #9.

Daniel Mehaffey, Jefferson-Houston parent, encouraged the Board to redraw lines for Jefferson-Houston.

Deborah Silverman, George Mason parent, spoke in support of keeping Planning Block 72 in the George Mason attendance zone.

Courtney Schlieter, Matthew Maury parent, spoke in support of Map Option #9.

Abby Ingols, George Mason parent, spoke regarding Planning Block 72.

Camille Gaffney, citizen, spoke about concerns of moving Planning Blocks 100 and 109 into the Jefferson-Houston attendance zone.

Sharon Pearce, citizen of Planning Block 72, spoke about the need to fix capacity issues instead of redistricting, which would not have enough impact on the capacity problems ACPS faces.

Allison Riley, George Mason PTA President, expressed concerns about proposed changes to the George Mason attendance zone.

Christy King-Gilmore, George Mason parent, spoke in opposition of proposed changes to the George Mason attendance zone.

David Gordon, George Mason parent, spoke in opposition to moving Planning Block 72 out of the George Mason attendance zone.

Matthew Walsh, citizen of Planning Block 72, spoke about moving Planning Blocks 100 and 109 out of the Matthew Maury attendance zone.

Ralph Buehler, citizen, spoke on the neglect of students at Jefferson-Houston School in the redistricting process.

David Knerr, citizen, spoke about re-examining the boundaries of Jefferson-Houston to better serve the students.

8. Public Comments

There were no public comment speakers for this evening.

Old Business & Action Items

9. FY 2018 Budget Calendar

Mr. Campbell moved to amend the FY 2018 Budget Calendar to move the Combined Funds Budget Public Hearing from the Thursday, January 26, 2017 School Board Meeting to the Thursday, January 19, 2017 Special Called School Board Meeting.

It was noted that the change was to allow for more time for the Budget Public Hearing due to the anticipated redistricting agenda item scheduled for January 26.

The vote to amend the FY 2018 Budget Calendar to move the Budget Public Hearing from January 26 to January 19, 2017 was unanimous, 8-0. The motion carried.

Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

10. Closed Meeting and Certification of Closed Meeting

There was no closed meeting held.

Adjournment

11. Adjourn

On a motion by Ms. Gentry and seconded by Ms. Campbell, the Board voted unanimously, 8-0, to adjourn. The meeting ended at 8:32 p.m.

Karen A. Graf, Chair

Clerk/Deputy Clerk

These minutes were adopted at the DATE School Board Meeting.