

SUMMARY OF PINELLAS SCHOOLS COLLABORATIVE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2011

The meeting was held on Wednesday, September 7, 2011, 9:00 a.m., in the Planning Department Conference Room. Those in attendance were:

Members Present:

Susan Latvala	Pinellas County (Chairman)
Joe Ayoub	City of Safety Harbor
Bill Dudley	City of St. Petersburg
Gigi Arntzen	City of Largo
George Cretekos	City of Clearwater
Peggy O'Shea	Pinellas County School Board
Jerry Mullins	PSTA/Pinellas Park
Doug Mullis	Citizen Representative

Members Absent:

Carol Cook	Pinellas County School Board
Julie Ward Bujalski	City of Dunedin
Suzanne Vale	City of Oldsmar
John Counts	City of Seminole
Susan Slattery	City of Tarpon Springs
Carol Reynolds	City of Madeira Beach
	City of Gulfport

Others Present:

Dave Sadowsky	Pinellas County Attorney Office
Brian Smith	Pinellas County Planning Department/MPO
Gordon Beardslee	Pinellas County Planning Department
Liz Freeman	Pinellas County Planning Department
Ryan Brinson	Pinellas County Planning Department
Sarah Ward	Pinellas County Planning Department/MPO
Gina Harvey	Pinellas County Planning Department/MPO
Cate Lee	City of Clearwater Planning and Development Dept.
Linda Fisher	Pinellas Planning Council
Robert Davis	Pinellas County Transportation
Tom Washburn	Pinellas County
Michael Bessette	Pinellas County Schools
Joe Incorvia	City of Pinellas Park
Paul Geisz	City of St. Petersburg
Tom Moore	City of Largo
Mike Gloss	PSTA
Mark Haber	Pinellas County Health Dept.
Carolyn Kuntz	MPO/Recorder

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Latvala called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF JUNE 6, 2010 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Arntzen moved, Councilman Mullins seconded, and motion carried to approve the minutes.

III. SCHOOL PLANNING WORKGROUP RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO IMPLEMENTATION OF LEGISLATIVE CHANGES AFFECTING SCHOOL FACILITIES PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Brian Smith indicated there were changes brought about through the Legislature, which affected school concurrency and coordination. There is an Interlocal Agreement in place with the jurisdictions that have schools located within their jurisdictions. At the last Pinellas Collaborative meeting, the members felt there was a benefit to retaining school concurrency and asked the School Planning Workgroup to develop recommendations that the Collaborative could consider. The Workgroup met on July 27, 2011 and made several recommendations.

- Regarding school concurrency, the Workgroup recommended that its implementation be discontinued. They felt the Interlocal Agreement addresses school planning coordination and collaboration and requires that information on development plans, population data, etc., continue to be shared. The current process already provides for extensive intergovernmental coordination of planning efforts. With less staff, it is difficult to maintain and administer the details and requirements for school concurrency. The continued projected decline in student enrollment and the resulting surplus of student capacity countywide make school concurrency unnecessary as there are no projected capacity deficits. Tracking enrollment and development should be kept in place. The Interlocal Agreement would need to be modified to continue coordination and collaboration. In addition, local governments will need to modify their Comprehensive Plans to remove school concurrency.
- Regarding the Interlocal Agreement, the Workgroup recommended that it be amended to include the municipalities that are now required to be signatories and delete the portions that pertain to implementation of school concurrency. A working draft of the Interlocal Agreement was included in the agenda packet. The existing Interlocal Agreement included as signatories all local governments that had a school located in their jurisdiction; however, due to changes in the legislation, all local governments whether there is a school located within their jurisdiction or not are now required to be signatories. Mr. Smith attended the last BIG-C, which includes all the beach communities, meeting to update them on the new requirements and they were willing to work with staff. Mr. Smith indicated he would keep them informed.

As part of the Interlocal Agreement discussion, Mr. Smith asked whether the additional signatories should be included in the Collaborative membership, noting that would greatly increase the size of the membership. In addition, most of those cities do not have a school located in their jurisdiction so it might not be necessary. The jurisdictions that would be affected are Kenneth City, South Pasadena, and a majority of the beach communities since Madeira Beach and St. Pete Beach are already signatories to the Interlocal Agreement. Mr. Smith suggested one option is to have one or two representatives from the BIG-C on the Collaborative. Commissioner Cretokos noted Clearwater is a member of the BIG-C.

Following discussion, it was decided to bring this issue to the BIG-C and let them decide; and, in addition, ask Kenneth City and South Pasadena for their input.

- Regarding the Development Tracking System, the Workgroup recommended retaining it since there is a benefit to using it even if it is no longer needed for school concurrency purposes. The School System will continue to track enrollment and make the annual report information available. They will be maintaining the data file of the School System and continue development tracking. The maps that were tied to school concurrency as part of the Comprehensive Plan will be removed into the technical portion (Data and Analysis

section of the Plan). At the next meeting, they will have a better idea which policies need to be modified or deleted.

Upon query by Commissioner Arntzen as to whether the local government can only look at their information as part of development tracking, Mr. Smith responded they are working with the County's Business Technology System to modify the tracking system so local governments can view all approved residential projects in the system.

By consensus, the Committee accepted the recommendations.

IV. DISCUSSION OF THE TENTATIVE FIVE-YEAR FACILITIES WORK PROGRAM FOR FY 2011/12 – 2015/16

Copies of a map showing the school locations including major projects were distributed. Mr. Smith indicated the School has a Five Year Plan for school improvements. The only school with improvements is Lynch Elementary School. Mr. Bessette indicated those improvements should be completed by Thanksgiving. The Five Year Work Program is under review and comment and will then be scheduled for action. Mr. Bessette indicated the second budget hearing is scheduled next week and they will include action on the Final Plan.

Commissioner Cretekos noted that St. Pete Beach currently does not have any schools located within its jurisdiction and would not need to be a member of the Collaborative.

By consensus, the Committee accepted the recommendations.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:19 a.m.