

Arcadia Unified School District

**MEASURE A
CITIZENS' OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES**

**October 3, 2016
Arcadia Education Center, Staff Development Room A
150 South Third Avenue
Arcadia, CA 91006**

I. OPENING BUSINESS

A. Call to Order

The meeting of the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee was called to order by Chairperson Lynne Whitaker at 6:05 p.m. on Monday, October 3, 2016, in Staff Development Room A at the Arcadia Education Center.

B. Roll Call

Committee Members present: Eugene Kao, Anthony Parrille, Nicole Rizzo, Albert Sylvia, Lynne Whitaker, Michael Williams, D.C.

Committee Members absent: Matt McSweeney

Staff present: Christina Aragon, Assistant Superintendent, Business Services; Connie Chu, Senior Administrative Assistant

Consultants: 0

Visitors: 0

C. Approval of Agenda

Motion: A motion was made to approve the agenda as presented.

Moved by: Anthony Parrille

Seconded by: Michael Williams, D.C.

Approved: 6-0

D. Appointment of Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee Members

Ms. Aragon welcomed the new members to the Committee and introductions were made.

The Committee, now in its fifth year, was reminded of their main purpose – to ensure the District is spending parcel tax funds as promised based on the ballot language. Ms. Chu will send the ballot language to the Committee. Each member is serving on the Committee in different capacities and can serve two, two-year terms.

E. Approval of Minutes: June 6, 2016

Motion: A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented.

Moved by: Anthony Parrille

Seconded by: Albert Sylvia

Approved: 6-0

F. Election of Officers

1. Chair

Motion: A motion was made to elect Lynne Whitaker as Chair.

Moved by: Anthony Parrille

Seconded by: Nicole Rizzo

Approved: 6-0

2. Vice Chair

Motion: A motion was made to elect Albert Sylvia as Vice Chair.

Moved by: Anthony Parrille

Seconded by: Nicole Rizzo

Approved: 6-0

II. PARCEL TAX UPDATE

A. Report on Parcel Tax Collections/Exemptions

Ms. Aragon reviewed the report on expected parcel tax collections and exemptions for 2015-2016 and 2016-2017. It was noted that some properties may have more than one parcel. Seniors 65 years of age or older qualify for an exemption and they only need to file once.

The number of parcels for 2016-2017 has gone up, possibly due to the splitting of parcels as a result of new development. Senior exemptions have gone down, perhaps due to the transferring of ownership.

B. Report on Expenditures

Ms. Aragon reviewed the Expenditure Report for 2015-2016 (30 teachers and 3 counselors) and 2016-2017 (28 teachers and 3 counselors). The number of teachers funded by the parcel tax has decreased since it initially started (2012-2013 – 38 teachers, 2013-2014 – 35 teachers, 2014-2015 – 33 teachers, 2015-2016 – 30 teachers, and 2016-2017 – 28 teachers) due to step and column, COLA, and/or benefit increases. Ms. Whitaker asked how many teachers are funded at each level. Ms. Aragon didn't have the exact breakdown, but stated that the District tries to fund them equally at each level. Ms. Whitaker asked if those teachers specifically who are funded by the parcel tax would be laid off if there is no parcel tax. Ms. Aragon said not necessarily – discussions regarding layoffs or cuts would occur prior to any decisions being made. Mr. Sylvia said there rules and laws that need to be followed. Mr. Kao asked if the teachers being funded by the parcel tax are being funded elsewhere. Ms. Aragon said generally not.

Ms. Aragon updated the Committee on the status of renewing the parcel tax as the current parcel tax is ending in 2017. The District would lose approximately \$3.4 million if not renewed. A survey was done by a polling consultant to obtain feedback and the results appeared to show continued support from the Arcadia community for a parcel tax renewal. In order to pass, there needs to be a 66.67% support from the voters. The survey included different rates and different lengths of time. The results came back in support of 18 years. The community surveyed expressed interest in the following (very similar to the current parcel tax): safe and clean schools, funds to be spent locally (State can't take away), retain and attract quality teachers, etc. The Board will consider, in November, calling a February 28, 2017 mail-in ballot election. Ms. Aragon wanted the Committee to be aware of what is up and coming.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Draft Review of 2015-2016 Annual Report to Governing Board

Ms. Aragon shared a draft of the 2015-2016 Annual Report. The Committee was advised to inform Ms. Whitaker if any changes were needed. The Audit Report will be presented to the Board on December 13, 2016 and the 2015-2016 Annual Report will be presented to the Board on February 14, 2017.

B. Questions & Answers

None.

IV. COMMENTS

A. Audience

None.

B. Committee

None.

C. Staff

None.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion was made to adjourn the Citizens' Measure A Oversight Committee meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Moved by: Albert Sylvia

Seconded by: Nicole Rizzo

Approved: 6-0

NEXT CITIZENS' MEASURE A OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, January 30, 2017

6:00 p.m.