Bond Committee Meeting
Minutes
San Antonio Public Library
Central Branch
600 Soledad St.

Tuesday, October 4, 2016
4:00 PM
600 Soledad St.

Bond Committee Members
A majority of appointive members, other than ex officio, shall constitute a quorum.

4:17 P.M. - Call to Order, Board Room
Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson, Co-Chairs, called the meeting to order.

- Attendance of Committee Members
- Head count of general attendance: 25
- Claudia Mancillas, World Wide Translators, was present.

I. Opening Comments and Meeting Procedures by Committee Chairs

Opening comments by Co-Chairs Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson, including introductions. Opening remarks were also made by Sheryl Sculley, City Manager and Mike Frisbie, Director of Transportation and Capital Improvements.

II. Community Committee Roles and Responsibilities and Status Update of City’s 2012 Bond Program

City Manager Sheryl Sculley highlighted the Roles and Responsibilities of the Committee Members and provided a status on the City’s 2012 Bond Program. It was noted that the 2017 Bond Program continued to focus on improving infrastructure needs. Ms. Sculley detailed funding allocations for each of the five infrastructure categories that totaled $850 million. The focus of this group is Facilities which total $120 Million. Mrs. Sculley spoke on the concept of Rough Proportionality and how it is applied to the bond allocations.

III. Open Meeting, City Ethics, and Lobbying Activity

City Attorney Elizabeth Provencio provided the Committee Members with a brief overview of local and state regulations regarding Open Meetings, Ethical Conduct, and Lobbying Activity. She cautioned Committee Members on the use of e-mail, and urged the members to keep the conversation and discussion in the meeting room.
IV.  Staff Professional Recommendation of Facilities Projects

Mike Frisbie presented the guiding principles for project selection and highlighted facility improvements to be made. He provided a general overview of the recommended projects, scope of work, and funding allocations. He noted that a total of 30 projects were identified for inclusion in the 2017 Bond Program that totaled $120 million.

V.  Bond Committee Discussion and Analysis

Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson asked that since today is National Night Out, that questions from the committee be kept to 1 from each district.

District 10: Mr. Glenn MacTaggert asked if the D10 Fire station location could be changed. A vacant lot off 410 and Perrin-Beitel felt like a better location. There is 6 acres of vacant and could be a gateway to District 10 and is close to District 2.

San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood stated that we look for locations that will improve response times. We are looking up and down Austin Highway to find a location that will strategically benefit us the most.

District 9: No member was present.

District 8: Mr. John Nicholas asked what the dollar amount of the total request for facilities. Additionally, he asked if the committee could get a comprehensive list of facility projects, including those not included in the staff recommendation.

Mr. Frisbie said that list would be made available during the next meeting.

District 7: Ms. Michelle Robledo asked what would happen if the proposed natatorium project is not approved by the school district, what would happen with the bond funds.

Mr. Frisbie stated that if a project can’t happen the City goes through a process with City Management and Elected Officials to see how to handle the project.

Mrs. Sculley added that this committee’s recommendation may include one or two projects as alternatives if there is a change in the projects. Additionally all potential partnering agencies will be provided a list of principals, requirements and a memorandum of understanding in order to receive city funding.

District 6: No questions at this time.

District 5: Mr. David Komet asked if the committee could get the specifics on the designs of the projects (i.e. sq. footage).

Mr. Frisbie said most projects have not been fully designed, but that estimates were used to create estimated costs, but those assumptions would be provided at the next meeting.

District 6: Ms. Marie Cooper, asked if ACCD doesn’t match funds with the City then what happens. Then noted this question had been answered with District 7’s question.
District 3: Ms. Agustin Mora asked if equipment and land acquisition costs were factored within the cost estimates of the projects, or if they needed to be considered outside the committee recommendation.

Mr. Frisbie stated these costs had been included within the estimates and other components can be addressed through the operating budgets.

Mrs. Sculley added that another factor the committee should consider is operating costs. These costs can serve as a deciding factor when the committee is considering the proposals.

District 2: Mr. Andrew Roberts asked what happens with the money if the vote fails on one proposition within the Bond. He asked if the money stayed within the District.

Mr. Frisbie commented that the City still has the debt capacity but that a new discussion and process would have to commence to determine how to use that capacity.

District 1: Mr. Bill Kanyusik asked what restrictions would be put on the zoo parking garage, would people attending concerts or athletic events be able to use the parking?

Mr. Frisbie said he would differ to zoo representation that would be speaking during the citizens to be heard section.

Additional comments were made from Mrs. Sculley that the committee would make their recommendation as a package of projects, and that the proposition vote would not be on individual items, with the exception of public safety items as required by state legislation.

VI. Citizens to be Heard

Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson opened the floor for public input. It was noted that 12 individuals had signed up to speak.

Myrl Britten with the Linear Creek Advisory Board discussed the Tezel Road City Facility. He noted that his project is a major connection for two linear Creekway expansions, and is pivotal to providing access to the new expansions. He asked the committee to please include this project within their recommendation.

Elena Gonzales asked the committee to please include a canopy within the construction scope for the Las Palmas Library project. She expressed the area is exposed to the elements, and is needed to use the area to its potential.

Mr. Frisbie commented that a canopy is included within the scope of the proposed project.

Tim Marrow with the San Antonio Zoo spoke to the specifics of the proposed zoo parking garage. The garage would be open to the public, and under its current design would have a bridge from the top level to provide access directly into the Sunken Garden. Additionally he commented on the difficult parking situation near the zoo and surrounding area, and added how much benefit the garage would be to everyone.

Brad Parrott with the UTSA Athletics program spoke about the UTSA Athletics Complex. He noted
this project is not for a football stadium, but rather a facility to enable other sports to conduct activities. He had a brochure handed out to the committee which he referenced. The handout had funding information, additional details on the project scope, and future expansion plans. He also noted that additional information would be included in future meetings.

Frank Dunn & Porter Dillard took the podium together on behalf of the Wheatley Heights Sports Complex. They spoke in support of the Wheatley Heights Sports Complex that was included in the recommended project list. They stated that it is hard to book the complex because of the lack of locker rooms. With the addition of locker rooms, they could book more regional events, which would be an economic stimulator as it brings a lot of people from other parts of the city and state.

Anthony Hargrove with the Ella Austin Community Center was there to speak about the facility. Ella Austin has a request that is not included in the staff recommendation. The request is for $5.6 Million in facility improvements. Mr. Hargrove spoke to the many programs Ella Austin provides the community, and urged the committee to add it to their recommendation. He stated the facility is receiving three federal grants and has partnerships with many organizations within the community.

Katie Luber with the San Antonio Museum of Arts (SAMA) was there to speak about adding their organization to the list. She commented that 5 years ago $1 Million was included within the 2012 Bond, and that SAMA was able to leverage it with private dollars to invest a total of $10 million in improvements. She commented on how over 130,000 people visit SAMA each year. She urged the committee to please include funding for SAMA within the Bond, as their building is aging and in desperate need for repairs. She also noted she would bring materials on the needs to the next meeting.

Marie Halff with SAMA added that there are many areas that SAMA could grow or expand in the future. She spoke to how Art played a major role and played a positive influence in her life, and that she hopes that SAMA can continue to do that for others. She asked for additional funding for renovations be included within the committee’s recommendation and added that the Pearl area development is coming their way, and that they need to be ready for it.

Rosario Laird with SAMA also spoke in support of funding for the museum. She added how the museum can open visitor’s eyes to a world outside San Antonio. She said the museum has little pieces of history that can be experienced firsthand; a firsthand experience is something totally unique and something you cannot experience by reading about them. She added that SAMA is the best kept secret in San Antonio. She urged the audience and committee to come for a visit and see what SAMA can offer.

Javier Roman was signed up to speak but was not present when called upon.

Pam Hannah with SAMA spoke in support of adding funds to the bond for the museum. She stated the 1880’s lone star building, a historic campus, is in disrepair. She said stabilizing the campus is vital to ensuring services can be provided to the next generation of visitors. She urged the committee to visit and see with their own eyes the value SAMA has for the community. She also added that the funding would ensure historic preservation which is one of the guiding principles of the bond. SAMA touches all the guiding principles but this historic preservation is one way this project would fall into.

Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson opened the floor to any citizen unable to sign-up that would like to speak, no one came forward.
VII. Next Steps for Community Bond Committee Process

Mr. Clamp thanked everyone for coming. He hopes all the meetings are as timely as this meeting. As we move forward we will be getting into the details. He stressed the importance of the committee listening to everyone’s input and recommendations, especially the citizens to be heard. Mr. Linson thanked everyone and reminded them of the challenges that will come. Mr. Clamp and Mr. Linson noted the next Facilities Committee Meeting would be at Central Library, on Tuesday, October 18, 2017, at 6pm. On a closing note Mr. Clamp wished everyone to have a great national night out.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:49 p.m.