

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL JOINT CITY COUNCIL/
MANHATTAN BEACH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING
OCTOBER 6, 2008**

The Special Joint City Council/Manhattan Beach Unified School District Meeting of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 6th day of October, 2008, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., in the Police/Fire Conference Room, 400/420 15th Street, in said City.

10/06/08-1. Pledge to the Flag

Student Board Member Kian Rowshani led the Pledge of Allegiance.

10/06/08-2. Welcome and Introduction

Mayor Montgomery and School Board President Howorth welcomed those present. The City Council, the Manhattan Beach Unified School District Board and staff members introduced themselves as follows:

- Present: Councilmembers: Jim Aldinger, Nick Tell, Mitch Ward, Portia Cohen and Mayor Richard Montgomery.
Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) Members: Ida VanderPoorte, Nancy Hersman, Bill Eisen, Bill Fournell and President Amy Howorth.
MBUSD Student Board Members: Kian Rowshani and Hannah Geiser.
- Also Present: City Manager Geoff Dolan, MBUSD Superintendent Dr. Beverly Rohrer, MBUSD Assistant Superintendent Dr. Steve Romines, MBUSD Deputy Superintendent Janet Schwabe, Executive Director of Student Services Ellen Schneider and Executive Director of Educational Services Carolyn Seaton
- Absent: None.
- Clerk: Dolan (Acting).

10/06/08-3. Public Comments

Robert Bush (No Address Provided) expressed his support of Measure BB and his hope that it will include much oversight, fiscal responsibility and accountability.

SCHEDULED

10/06/08-4. Discussion of the MBUSD Bond Issue

Manhattan Beach Unified School District (MBUSD) Member Ida VanderPoorte gave a brief presentation on MBUSD's efforts toward Measure BB. She provided input on requirements pertaining to Measure BB according to Proposition 39, including a Citizens' Oversight Committee (which has been selected and will be expanded after the Measure passes); the 55% vote needed to pass; the budget; bylaws (which have been passed); and compliance with the Brown Act. She distributed written material depicting the existing and proposed layouts for proposed renovations at Mira Costa High School, which would be funded by Measure BB, and provided input related thereto.

MBUSD Member Nancy Hersman noted that a resolution adopting all of the Oversight Committee's recommendations for the previous bond was adopted.

MBUSD Member Bill Fournell added that the Citizens' Oversight Committee will select a firm to perform financial audits and that performance audits will be conducted as well.

City Council Ad Hoc School Committee Representatives Cohen and Tell provided input on the substandard conditions at Mira Costa High School. The Council discussed the excellent academics at Mira Costa, in spite of the poor conditions; thanked MBUSD for their efforts, including the tours of the Mira Costa campus; pointed out the importance of MBUSD and the City working together; and noted that Measure BB will free up general fund monies that could be used for classroom needs at MBUSD schools, without increasing property taxes.

Student Board Members Rowshani and Geiser shared information about the poor conditions at Mira Costa and the need for updated technology.

City Manager Dolan advised that the agenda for the Council meeting on October 7, 2008 includes a resolution in support of Measure BB.

MBUSD President Amy Howorth related MBUSD's gratification that the Council and MBUSD are communicating and working together.

Mayor Montgomery presented MBUSD with "Excellence in Academics" certificates for all Manhattan Beach schools.

10/06/08-5. Discussion of New "Be Our Guest" - Senior Citizen Passport to Fun, 2008-2009

MBUSD President Amy Howorth reported that, due to the success of the previous "Be Our Guest" event, MBUSD and the Parks and Recreation Department are sponsoring a "Be Our Guest" program whereby older adults will be admitted free of charge to school events and, if needed, transported via Dial-A-Ride.

MBUSD Superintendent Dr. Beverly Rohrer distributed "Be Our Guest" brochures and relevant material and thanked all who contributed to this program.

The Council commended MBUSD's efforts in accomplishing this program in a timely manner; indicated that this program will be announced at the Council meeting on October 7, 2008; and recommended that copies of the "Be Our Guest" brochure be provided to community groups and placed for distribution in the Senior Citizens' Department.

MBUSD Member Nancy Hersman noted that links to the "Be Our Guest" program will be added to the MBUSD and City's Parks and Recreation Department websites.

10/06/08-6. Discussion of Carpooling to School Program

Councilmember Cohen explained that, during the Council's consideration of a School Area Traffic Study, the idea of the schools administering a carpooling program to help minimize traffic was introduced.

City Manager Dolan distributed written material about efforts in other areas to reduce traffic around schools.

MBUSD President Amy Howorth indicated that this topic will be placed on an upcoming MBUSD agenda.

Mayor Montgomery asked that the Council be kept informed on the status of this idea.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was duly adjourned at 7:23 p.m. to the 5:30 p.m. Adjourned Regular Meeting to be followed by the 6:30 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 7, 2008.

Wendy Weeks
Recording Secretary

Richard Montgomery
Mayor

ATTEST:

Liza Tamura
City Clerk