

SA2020 COMMISSION ON EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 12, 2015

11:30 AM

Café College, 131 El Paso, San Antonio, Texas, 78204

Members Present: Lester Bryant, Chair, District 2 Representative
Julius Lorenzi, District 5 Representative
Paul Martin, District 8 Representative
Maryann Jarrell, District 10 Representative
Michael Soto, Mayoral Appointee

Member Absent: Anita Fernandez, District 1 Representative
Albert Uresti, District 3 Representative
Philip N. Tael, District 6 Representative
Cristina Bazaldua-Salazar, District 7 Representative

Staff Present: Ana Acevedo, Education Policy Administrator, City of San Antonio
Coda Raya-Garza, Director of Zoning & Planning, Councilman Ron Nirenberg, Dist. 8

Others Present: Molly Cox, Interim President and CEO, SA2020

1. Approval of Minutes from April 13, 2015 Meeting

Paul Martin noted that his discussion about Constitution Café was omitted from the April 13 minutes, and he asked that they be added. With the addition of those comments, Julius Lorenzi motioned to approve the amended minutes. Paul Martin seconded the motion. The amended April 13, 2015 minutes were approved by a unanimous vote.

2. Discussion regarding role of SA2020 with the SA2020 Commission on Education [Molly Cox, Interim President and CEO, SA2020]

Molly Cox spoke about the history of SA2020 and the SA2020 Commission on Education. SA2020 is a separate non-profit organization that is not part of the City. The City adopted the goals that were set by SA2020. These goals and indicators represent the will of the city. The question for the Commission is what is the City's role in addressing the SA2020 indicators.

Molly Cox shared that one indicator that has not been showing progress is increasing the percent of students enrolling and finishing college. Paul Martin shared that Constitution Café can make a difference in improving the number of students that go to college.

Molly Cox mentioned that SA2020 led the Talent Pipeline Taskforce to bring education leaders and workforce leaders together to discuss education and workforce issues. A report will be released soon with policy recommendations.

Molly stressed to the Commission that they have the ears of their Council representatives, and therefore, they should be able to make policy recommendations to Council members. One example is that the Commissioners could help the Council members set priorities for delegate agency funding.

Moving forward, Molly Cox suggested to continue to look at ways that the Commission and SA2020 can work together. One way is to make sure that relevant information from SA2020 is shared with the Commission monthly. Another way is to have individual Commissioners select an education topic/issue that they will report on month to month.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding next steps for SA2020 Commission on Education [Lester Bryant, Chair, District 2]

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Ana Acevedo shared a draft of a website plan for providing educational resources to the community. Maryann Jarrel said that an area of concern for her is adult literacy and English classes for non-English speaking adults. She stated that she feels that the City should promote those areas of education.

Molly Cox added that when thinking about the website, we should also think about a marketing and engagement plan and a budget for the plan.

The role of the San Antonio Education Partnership (SAEP) was briefly discussed by Michael Soto. He mentioned that SAEP manages Café College and provides college/career counseling in high schools across the city. The City supplies scholarships to students through SAEP. SAEP also serves as a convening agency for multi-agency grant initiatives.

Paul Martin made a motion to vote on making a formal recommendation to go forward with the website. Julius Lorenzi seconded the motion. All Commissioners present voted in favor of moving forward with the website.

Paul Martin suggested that the Commission table the recommendation to change the name of the SA2020 Commission on Education.

4. Announcements

Paul Martin invited everyone to attend the Constitution Café at East Central High School on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 9:15 am as well as the Constitution Café on September 17, 2015. Details will follow for the September 17 event.

It was suggested that the next meeting be held in mid June.

Paul Martin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Michael Soto seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 PM.