

**ANTIOCH CITY COUNCIL  
ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Lone Tree Elementary School  
1931 Mokelumne Drive**

**Joint Meeting  
7:00 P.M.**

**April 26, 2007**

**7:00 P.M. – ROLL CALL**

Mayor Freitas called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. for the Antioch City Council and Antioch Unified School District Board members on Thursday, April 26, 2007 at Lone Tree Elementary School.

**1. ROLL CALL**

Present:

City Council:	Councilmembers Kalinowski, Davis, Simonsen, Moore and Mayor Freitas
School Board Members:	School Board Members Seelinger, Agopian, Shaw, Ruehling and Smith
City Staff:	City Manager Jakel Police Chief Hyde Deputy Director Leisure Services Sanderson

Mayor Freitas welcomed the public and announced Item No. 3H would be taken before Item No. 3A. Mayor Freitas stated action would not be taken during this meeting. Recommendations could be discussed or agreed upon during the course of this joint meeting between the Antioch Unified School Board and the Antioch City Council, limited to an advisory nature. Any action items must be voted on by each entity at regularly scheduled meetings of each individual board. Furthermore, all members present would be responsible for relaying any and all information to any member(s) absent from this meeting, for further consideration and action.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. JOINT PROJECTS/REPORTS**

**H. CHALLENGE DAY**

Mary Pineda spoke on behalf of Challenge Day to be held at Deer Valley High School (DVHS) and stated the goal of the event was to deter any type of tragedy. She stated through the program students would be able to seek help if they felt the need. Challenge Day would be the first step for change, and the second step was to start the program "Project Hello" which stands for "Helping Everyone Live Less Offensive" was designed to help students and staff to respect one another by changing one's behavior and stop the bullying of one another. Ms. Pineda requested the City and the Antioch Unified School District (AUSD) partner to fund Challenge Day pilot program for Deer Valley for the next two years and in the meantime, the work with the community to obtain grants and other funding sources to continue thereafter. She further explained the programs the funding would provide and distributed a packet of testimonials from Deer Valley students.

Seven students spoke in support of Challenge Day.

Antioch School Board member Seelinger stated her appreciation to the students for their support.

Mayor Freitas stated the item would come before the City Council for further consideration in the near future.

Councilmember Kalinowski requested that before the City Council review the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program carry over money proposal, and that \$7,000 be added to the CDBG item.

#### **A. DOZIER-LIBBEY MEDICAL HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Nancie Castro, provided a power point presentation and a displayed conceptual drawing of the campus. She further spoke to the enrollment process and tutoring program.

Mayor Freitas stated it had been a joint effort between the City of Antioch and the AUSD and he commended Ms. Castro for her efforts on the project. He further expressed the need for this type of school within the community and the medical office growth that was occurring within the City.

Antioch School Board member Agopian felt the type of school represented the present and future Antioch and could only benefit the community.

Antioch School Board member Ruehling felt the school should be the leader in more schools of this type and supported the direction the AUSD was moving towards.

#### **B. YOUTH SERVICES**

- **PAL/Reach/Youth Intervention Network**
- **School Resource Officers**

#### **C. YOUTH SAFETY**

- **Curfew Ordinance**
- **Deer Valley Plaza and Gas City Status Report**

Police Chief Hyde presented a power point presentation relating to Youth Services and Youth Safety issues. He noted brochures were available to the public that contained information regarding summer youth activities.

Mickey Marchetti, Director of REACH, presented a power point presentation relating to the REACH Project and noted REACH would begin becoming more active within the community, in terms of being more involved with joint youth programs.

Keith Archuleta, Youth Intervention Network, stated he was working with the East County Business and Education Alliance to change the way education was viewed and work towards promoting positive solutions. He felt it was important to first look at what was happening within

the community, and secondly embrace what action could be taken to change the direction of the youth, in terms of creating a process to create leadership for the community.

Iris Archuleta, Volunteer and Manager/Director of the Youth Intervention Network, further spoke to the workings of the program and stated she was working towards not creating an additional program, but creating a long term sustainable strategy for the youth who are at risk of either becoming victims of violent crimes or committing crimes. Also, she would be working on a collaborative effort with the community and faith based organizations towards making a change within the community.

Councilmember Moore stressed the importance of the PAL and REACH Programs and expressed his appreciation to the Youth Intervention Network for creating a model program for the youth of the community.

Antioch School District Board member Agopian stressed the need to promote community service and felt that a Criminal Justice Magnet School would be of interest to the community. He further expressed his appreciation to the City Council for taking action and implementing the recent curfew ordinance.

Mayor Freitas commended all individuals who are involved in working with the youth programs, as well as the volunteers for playing an active and positive role within the community.

#### **D. THE BLUEPRINT FOR EXCELLENCE**

\_\_\_\_\_, provided a power point presentation that provided information relating to the Blueprint for Excellence program. An index card was distributed to each Councilmember and School Board member requesting their ideas on what they could do, in their position, to commit to support an excellent education system in Antioch. The first phase of this project will be ending in June and then coming before the School Board with recommendations pertaining to all input received. Also, two principals within the district have been asked to chair the Blueprint Steering Committee to focus on the coordination of teacher and administrative involvement, with the work studies and input sessions to continue. She looked forward to the City Council and School Board's involvement. Furthermore the School Superintendent will meet with each Councilmember to discuss each Councilmember's thoughts regarding an excellent school system and a draft will be compiled with all input received from the community and the Council.

Mayor Freitas felt that with the City and School District working together will be a success and expressed his appreciation to provide his input.

#### **E. TURF FIELDS**

Thomas McNeil, distributed a handout to the Council and School Board regarding his comments. He stated that a majority of students that were here tonight to speak to this issue had to leave, due to it being a school night, and expressed concern as to why this item was not

placed at the beginning of the agenda. Mr. McNeil read from his handout and spoke to various sports programs that were throughout the community, and felt that Antioch has fallen behind other communities, in terms of not providing turf fields. He requested that Antioch bring this issue to the forefront and partner with the community to bring the facilities up to date. He felt that if Antioch had a full-blown sports complex, this would attract competitors throughout the State and be a benefit to the youth of the community.

Frank Beede, resident and Antioch Teacher, stated his appreciation to the School Board and City Council for their efforts on this issue and further spoke to the present condition of the school's fields and felt that all weather turf fields needed to be addressed. He felt that sport programs were an asset to the youth, in terms of keeping them busy and off the streets and providing them a structured environment. He encouraged the Council and School Board to push forward with this issue.

Carmen Anjari, resident, spoke to Antioch High School and stated that the goal would be to bring in a new turf track and field into the school and stressed the importance of safety to prevent any future injuries. She spoke to funds within the RDA that were promised to Antioch High School from the Nelson Ranch Project that could be shifted to pay for a new turf track and field at the high school. Also, the residential area surrounding the high school are subject to redevelopment bonds and a portion of the RDA funds could be used to build new facilities. Additionally, under the City's CDBG monies she requested that the City consider a \$500,000 match to start the track and field project, with the track being Phase I and the field being Phase II. She further requested the AUSD to find a way to match another \$500,000 which would bring this field closer to its original goal.

John Sack, President of Deer Valley Youth Football, expressed concern to mud that is collected where fields are excessively used for football and soccer games, and felt this further damaged the fields and created injuries to students. He added that fields in other communities have been used for Antioch games because of Antioch's damaged fields. He spoke to concerns expressed by parents regarding pesticides that are used in the fields, and felt that if better fields were implemented it would only increase revenue to the school district. He additionally stressed the need for a mechanism to be put into place to acquire updated facilities.

Jeff Furtado, Member of Contra Costa Athletic Referee, spoke to the poor condition of Antioch's fields, in terms of the safety concerns and not allowing the games to be played correctly due to the condition of the field in the winter months.

Michael Sagehorn, Delta Rugby Organization, stated that a turf field would allow his program to be played in the winter months when the school district and the City have chosen to shut down their fields. He further spoke to the inadequate number of fields in Antioch to conduct the number of sports activities and stressed the need for a safer area for the youth to play these sports.

The Competition Director for the Delta Youth Soccer League expressed the need for turf fields within the community and felt it would be a benefit, in terms of initiating tournaments to create an account that would replenish the funds for the turf fields. He felt that a long term and larger vision for a sports complex was needed and recommended that the City Council review this as a long term goal.

Tanner Gibney, student at Antioch High School, expressed concern to the damage that is done to the fields, due to weather, and noted that this created safety concerns. He felt the condition of the field also hurt the pride of the school and the community, and also was a deterrent for other schools to compete here in Antioch.

Erin Favaron, resident, felt that Antioch High School has been neglected and felt the present condition of the field created additional safety concerns to the students. She felt that a number of events could be held to raise additional revenue to improve the field.

Adam Abu-Aly, representing Football and Delta Youth Rugby, expressed the need for better fields and felt that there were a number of students and individuals within the community that should be playing sports on improved fields.

CJ Collins, Field Turf, stated that his company would aid in the financial aspects of the turf field, in terms of fundraising and providing an in-house design team that will design fields at no charge. He stated that turf fields do lower injuries, crime and noted that the field's life span is 12-15 years.

Greg DeCristofano, retired water polo coach, expressed concern to moving forward with the field turf, in that, it would take away from a previous commitment from the City for newer swimming pools. He expressed similar concerns to other communities not wanting to compete in Antioch, due to the conditions of the pools. He spoke to the original pool that he previously designed and requested that the City Council and School Board reconsider not building this pool, but go back to a more reasonable swimming facility that would be large enough to host events, generate money for the school district and serve the community. He urged the City and School District to collaborate together in providing all types of sports facilities for the community.

Mr. Stephens expressed concern to the Deer Valley High School track's present condition and the number of injuries that have occurred to the students. He stressed the need to obtain funding to improve the fields.

Thomas Judge, resident, expressed concern to the present condition of the fields and stressed the enforcement of a 10:00 p.m. curfew ordinance on weekdays.

Will Whitney, Teacher and Soccer Coach, suggested that Antioch and Deer Valley High School integrate their sports programs and felt this would engage all student athletes, as well as create equal access to the sports facilities and encourage the use of those facilities on campus. He stated his support of turf fields, in terms of providing a safe sports environment.

**END PUBLIC COMMENT**

In responding to Councilmember Kalinowski, AUSD \_\_\_\_\_ spoke to the AUSD Facilities Master Plan and added that Antioch High School's track would be undergoing a mini-renovation that would include a new field and possibly renovating the bleachers and other stadium facilities.

Councilmember Kalinowski believed that athletics were an important aspect of the community and felt that the City Council should be a partner, in some degree, in helping the School District progress towards the issues of improved facilities. In regards to the CDBG carry over funds, he requested that the City Manager engage with the School Superintendent to see if the City felt it was appropriate if there was a match on whatever the school district can provide in funding to work on a phased project at Antioch High School. He felt there is a community benefit to being a partner in these improvements, but the underlying responsibility would lie with the school district. He further requested a copy of the AUSD Facilities Master Plan to ensure the best use of resources, community-wide.

Councilmember Moore supported the efforts between the Council and School District making decisions for the future of the community and felt that elective officials needed to support this concept. He looked forward to all future discussions and felt that all options needed to be explored for the betterment of the community.

Councilmember Simonsen felt that funding was available for the School District through various avenues and that the accountability of monies through the state should be further researched. He expressed concern to taking funds that are meant for the City and placing them on school district property, but was open to reviewing the bond monies that were passed in November.

School Board member Agopian felt that there could be a collaborative effort between the School District and the City Council to approach these issues. He felt that these issues are overdue and felt that this partnership should be formed in three ways between the City, School District and private enterprise. Also, that it is conducted in a positive manner and possibly in phases and that funding sources are reviewed. He felt that the students and community should have a safe environment and felt that it was realistic to construct new Antioch High School pool facilities and turf fields at both Antioch high schools.

School Board member Shaw felt that creativity was needed in seeking help from local business owners and other avenues, wherein a joint effort could be produced.

School Board member Smith stated that she was an advocate of equity and planning and that a collaborative effort could be made for all sports activities to grow and benefit the community. She agreed that a subcommittee and/or task force should be formed to further review all possibilities.

School Board member Ruehling felt that these issues needed to be addressed through a partnership and that a comprehensive plan was needed to move forward.

Mayor Freitas spoke to various community facilities that are currently in need of maintenance and agreed that a subcommittee should be formed between the City and School District. In terms of the City providing funds for school properties, it is then required that the public would

have a right to have access to these facilities and fields and issues need to be further reviewed. He referred this issue to the City Manager and School Superintendent to work on a possible proposal that can be passed by the School District and City Council and that the community and businesses be engaged on this particular item. He suggested that this item come before both bodies as soon as possible with a deadline for some type of concrete action by the end of July so the process can begin to address the strategies, funding, capital issues.

If this was acceptable to the School Board members and City Councilmembers, Mayor Freitas directed the City Manager to work on this proposal within the next 30 to 45 days. There was a consensus amongst the School Board and Council to move forward with Mayor Freitas' request.

#### **F. JOINT FACILITIES USE**

Deputy Director Leisure Services Sanderson provided an overview of the coordinated use of Joint Facilities.

#### **G. RELAY FOR LIFE 2007**

Bob Hunter, Co-Chair for the Antioch Relay for Life 2007, stated that the location of the event has been relocated to Los Medanos College, due to the renovation of the Antioch High School football field.

Discussions ensued regarding the timing and placement of the event, wherein Mr. Hunter stated that the school district would not schedule an event at Deer Valley High School or any other school facility until May, 2007, and this posed a problem because advertising needs to be created in January, 2007.

Mayor Freitas expressed concern to the change of the venue and requested that this event be advertised regarding the change because he did not want any type of negative impact to take place, due to this change of venue. He further stated his support to all involved in this event.

A resident expressed concern to the fact that school facilities are difficult to obtain for specific events.

Mayor Freitas further noted that this was a good example of developing criteria for joint facility use between the City and the school district.

#### **4. CITY OF ANTIOCH PROJECT UPDATES**

Mayor Freitas provided a brief update on the Prewett Family Park Community Center and Library.

Nancy Brandt announced that the Community Build City Park Playground event will be held the week of May 16.

Mayor Freitas further reported on the Ferry Boat proposal, Rivertown revitalization efforts and the JC Penney store to be located at Slatten Ranch.

**5. ANTIOCH UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT PROJECT UPDATES**

None.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ms. Angela requested that the School Board reschedule a hearing for her child for the week of May 14.

Moses De Los Reyes, resident, distributed information to the City Council and School Board regarding a Workforce Development Model to provide high school graduates with possible career opportunities. He further spoke to the benefits of the program that would be provided to the students and felt this program would promote local economic development.

Jason Miller, Delta Education Group, expressed his appreciation to the City Council, School Board and District Staff for their assistance in the early stages of planning a Public Charter for the Performing Arts in coming to Antioch.

Terry Ramus, resident, distributed a handout to the City Council and School Board regarding Mello Roos 89-1 and further spoke to this issue. He requested that this issue be placed on the City Council's next agenda regarding:

- Public notification, prior to any policy changes being made
- Notification to taxpayers and specific timeframe to act
- Add Mello Roos Minutes to the City's website
- Direct Staff to provide a history of all buy-outs by date, amounts, home size and formulas.
- Direct the Mello Roos Board that three board members are Mello Roos taxpayers
- Provide a well publicized public hearing meeting to receive input of Mello Roos taxpayers before any of this takes place. He suggested that the City Council schedule this for May 8, followed by a Mello Roos Board meeting to be held on May 14.

Tom McNeil, resident, requested that the Mello Roos 89-1 between the School District and the City be adhered to, and felt there should then be additional funding to provide turf fields and other school facilities.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Freitas adjourned the City Council meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Lawson  
Minutes Clerk