Redwood City 2020 Leadership Council
Redwood City Public Library, Community Room (2nd Floor)
1044 Middlefield Rd, Redwood City, CA 94063
Wednesday, May 15, 2019
9:00am – 10:30am

(Draft) Meeting Minutes

Leadership Council members in attendance: Carrie DuBois, Georgia Jack, Alisa MacAvoy, Shelly Masur, Gerald Shefren, Stacey Wagner

Executive Team members in attendance: John Baker, Amy Gerstein, Pamela Kurtzman, Karl Porter (on behalf of Nicole Pollack), Melissa Stevenson Diaz, Mary Streshly, Timothy Wong

Other Redwood City 2020 partners in attendance: Tatiana Baquero Devis, Elena Betts Barahona, Pati Ortiz, Nicole Prieto Macias, Matthew Reeves, Peter Shih, Derek Wolfgram

Community members in attendance: None were present.

Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review
- Chairperson Shelly Masur welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the agenda. Introductions were given by all those present.

Oral Communications
- There were no public comments.

Draft Minutes
- Shelly Masur requested the approval of the draft minutes from the Leadership Council meeting held on March 20, 2019.
- Gerald Shefren motioned to approve the draft minutes; Alisa MacAvoy seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Member Announcements/Good News/Kudos
- Leadership Council Member Carrie DuBois invited Leadership Council attendees to a half day conference to learn about how stress affects academic learning for both students and teachers. The conference will take place on May 20th, from 9am to 1pm. Carrie DuBois will send the information to Elena Betts Barahona to share with the Redwood City 2020 network.
- During January 16, 2019 Leadership Council meeting, Gardner Center Executive Director, Amy Gerstein, led a discussion about chronic absenteeism. Following this
discussion, Stacey Wagner spoke with the Chief of Pediatrics at Kaiser Permanente who is willing to continue the conversation of how healthcare professionals play a role in the issue, while keeping in mind the duty of health organizations to comply with HIPAA.

- Due to the growing rates of homelessness, the Human Services Agency will be holding population count of homeless residents throughout cities in San Mateo County. The date of the population count has not been determined yet. However, Karl Porter will send further information to Elena Betts Barahona to share with the Leadership Council once it is available.

**Dumbarton Corridor Coalition**

- Redwood City 2020 Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator, Matthew Reeves, gave an informational presentation regarding a local transportation project and the Dumbarton Corridor Coalition.
- In 2017, the Silicon Valley Bike Coalition started the Dumbarton Corridor Coalition.
- SamTrans conducted a study of the Dumbarton Corridor and recommended the implementation of additional rail and bus transportation, and further study of the pedestrian and bike path.
- As a result of the Dumbarton Corridor study, SamTrans is redesigning the corridor in partnership with Facebook and the Plenary Group and are considering a rail, bus, and/or bike and pedestrian paths.
  - The bike and pedestrian paths are the cheaper and faster option, costing a total of $60 million, and constructed in a few years, in comparison to the bus, which would cost over $100 million. A rail option would take 30 years and cost over $1 billion.
  - One of the concerns in design is that there might not be enough clearance space for all the projects.
- At community meetings, the general public have not been overly opposed to the project and favor the idea of increased access to public transportation. However, they want the North Fair Oaks community’s input to be consciously incorporated to plans.
- Since this is part of a major regional transportation project, the Dumbarton Corridor redesign plan has been discussed at a City Council meeting.
  - An idea that was proposed at the City Council meeting was to have an overhead train pass.
  - There will be more community engagement opportunities, including a stakeholder meeting in January. There is a mailing list for those who would like to continue hearing about the project.
  - Melissa Stevenson Diaz encouraged partners to get involved and be aware of this complex project since it is critical to all.
- Mary Streshly expressed appreciation for the information about this project and encouraged Council Member Shelly Masur and Melissa Stevenson Diaz to share more information with the Leadership Council in the future.
  - Mary Streshly also noted that East Menlo Park and East Palo Alto communities need to be represented in these decisions since their transportation options are limited, and students find it difficult to get to school and afterschool programs.
Alisa McAvoy stressed the importance of public transportation access and mentioned her involvement with the Dumbarton Corridor Coalition from early stages through her work with the Peninsula Open Space Trust (POST). She has written an advocacy letter for this bike and pedestrian path project. POST did an engineering study that shows the feasibility of a bike and pedestrian plan, and Alisa MacAvoy mentioned that it would be a good opportunity to have a pedestrian and bike path while the larger infrastructure project is in progress. Access to a pedestrian and bike path would have a significant impact in the safety of high school, elementary, and middle school students.

- Shelly Masur emphasized the complexity of the project and connectivity issues due to the Bayshore Highway. She suggested that Matthew Reeves inquire about having a planning expert or representative from the Dumbarton Corridor Coalition present more information about this project to the Leadership Council in the future. This would also provide an opportunity for partners to provide feedback to the project.
  - Mary Streshly agreed with Shelly Masur’s suggestion and emphasized the importance of community organizations’ perspective for this project.
- Shelly Masur mentioned that CalTrain presented some information about transit possibilities at a previous City Council meeting, including an ambitious high frequency speed rail that would pass by every 15 minutes. However, this would be a great challenge due to the significant amount of land needed to implement additional railing for passing tracks.
  - This project would greatly impact the Sequoia train station and would significantly impact the landscape. Additionally, Caltrain is studying the 5 Redwood City rail crossings as well as a plan to create grade separated crossings throughout San Jose and San Francisco that would cost over $11 billion.

**Pipeline of Success Cradle to Career Initiative**

- Shelly Masur gave an overview of Redwood City 2020’s work in the Pipeline of Success, starting from the research of chronic absenteeism and expansion and sustainability of community schools’ efforts, that lead to the current partnership with Strive Together and Communities in Schools.
- Throughout the years, Redwood City 2020 has set indicators to measure the impact of the collaborative’s work. The shared results and indicators that the Executive Team and Leadership Council have identified throughout the years will be useful in the upcoming collaboration with Strive Together.
- Strive Together will be scheduling 6 hours with Leadership Council and Executive Team members to strategize about the upcoming community schools and Pipeline of Success expansion, and to identify indicators that have the highest ability to measure impact for the Pipeline of Success.
- Amy Gerstein emphasized that it is critical that the indicators chosen during this process are research and evidence based, and that there is evidence to support that the indicators are predictive of the targeted outcomes. Additionally, it is important to choose indicators and outcomes that are generative and connect to different priorities across the board.
  - For example, the council discussed the 3rd grade reading level indicator, which is predictive of student success later in their life-course.
Georgia Jack suggested having an indicator that looks at benchmarks for different grade levels at key transition points in the system.
  o John Baker agreed with this statement.
Mary Streshly mentioned that the council must be careful about the local context and chosen indicators. For example, the rapid impact of gentrification could falsely suggest outcomes, while the outcomes of high need students might not actually be changing. She suggested that we track outcomes of specific cohorts to see a true reflection of the continuity of their services through critical transition times.
Shelly Masur noted that the council will continue this in-depth conversation about indicators during the 6-hour meeting with Strive Together. The Leadership Council and Executive Team could choose to schedule the Strive Together meeting in a 6-hour block or break it into two meeting blocks.
  o The Leadership Council and Executive Team will receive a doodle poll to assess meeting preferences.
  o Alisa MacAvoy suggested that the poll include dates so true availability can be reflected in the answers.
  o All scheduling matters can be discussed with Elena Betts Barahona. Elena will also send communications regarding the scheduling of the Strive Together meeting.
Shelly Masur announced the end of the open session and the start of a closed session for only Leadership Council members.

Closed Session
  • Shelly Masur adjourned the open session. The Leadership Council and Executive Team discussed further matters during the closed session.

Meeting Adjourned