

**CITY of BRIDGEPORT  
EDUCATION and SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
of the CITY COUNCIL**

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 12, 2010**

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**6:30 P.M.**

**ATTENDANCE:** Council members: Taylor-Moye; Co-chair, Brantley; Co-chair, Martinez, M. McCarthy, Baker, Walsh

**OTHERS(s):** Council President T. McCarthy

Co-chair Taylor-Moye called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

Approval of Committee Minutes of April 13, 2010.

Tabled until the next scheduled meeting.

Informational Session: Review of the Gibson Report.

Council member Taylor-Moye stated that this meeting was held to find out if there were any recommendations to be made for the Gibson Report. She noted that there were a couple of concerns expressed by Council member Lyons. And she questioned whether the other committee members had any other concerns, or if they were waiting until the Board of Education made their recommendations.

Council member T. McCarthy stated that the BOE would make the final decision. However, one concern was regarding the crossing guards that are located at different places, where other locations are dangerous because there are no crossing guards.

Council member Taylor-Moye agreed that there should be crossing guards at some locations, as well as at other facilities where a crossing guard is needed. She expressed the potential for problems that could arise where there is no crossing guard.

Council member Taylor-Moye reviewed previous meeting minutes to recall comments by Council member Lyons. She noted that she had a problem with phase-4 of the Gibson Report; in terms of how it is administered, details of how it will be paid for and how it will work.

Council member Martinez stated that she noticed there was nothing in the report about the impact of parents on the school system, in relation to the monies that are received that go towards working with the PTL. She felt that the parents and home school coordinators should be another component in report.

Council member Taylor-Moye recalled another comment previously made by Council member Lyons regarding central staffing. She felt that they should start from the top down in terms of staffing, rather than starting at the lower level.

Council member Baker stated that one of his concerns was where they came up with specific areas to identify where they could implement cost savings. He referred to specific data where it was noted that only some areas had been identified, where areas haven't been identified, such as in the administration side, nutrition side and facilities. He thought they should cover the entire structure of cost savings for the Board of Education.

Council member Taylor-Moye expressed her concern about eating food in the classrooms vs. the cafeteria. She noted that eating in the classroom is forbidden due to the risk of rodents. She thought this issue should be addressed from a cost efficient perspective.

Council member Baker said he didn't see where recycling was addressed. He felt this matter should be addressed from a cost savings perspective and that the committee should ask for recommendations.

Council member Taylor-Moye recapped that this meeting was to get a better understanding about the Gibson Report and to express their concerns.

Council member Martinez asked if there was a city council liaison who attended the Board of Education meetings. She suggested that they follow up on communication with the BOE, regarding the Gibson Report, since they will eventually vote on phase-4.

Council member Brantley added that the committee should make their recommendations to the BOE, with emphasis on how their recommendations will be included in the report. She further noted that phase-4 of the report would go before the full city council for a vote.

Council M. McCarthy asked if the full city council would vote on the entire report.

*There was some open discussion of whether the BOE votes on the entire report and phase-4. There was also a question if the committee needs to wait to find out where they were at with the plan and if they are ready to move forward. And if they will recommend phase-4 and a final decision, since money will be requested to complete the report.*

Council member Taylor-Moye asked if the committee members agreed to making a request that they be kept apprised of the status of the report.

Council member Walsh commented that the BOE has the report and they need to determine if it fits in their budget. He said he wasn't sure if they selected a consultant for the next phase or if they had a dollar amount of what it will cost.

Council member Brantley responded that they already came up with a cost. Council member Walsh questioned if they ever voted on the cost for the last phase. Council member Martinez said the city paid one-third. However, for phase-4, they will need more money.

Council member Taylor-Moye recalled that last year, a presentation was given and all was set what was going to be done. She emphasized her problem with that process was that they didn't have any input last year and she felt the committee's concerns should be considered this year for phase-4.

Council member Walsh commented that if the BOE doesn't do anything for phase-3, the committee shouldn't agree to paying for phase-4.

*There was some further open discussion regarding other details that were needed to complete phase-4.*

Council member Martinez felt that if the BOE is coming back to ask the city for more money, then the committee should have some say so.

Council member Taylor-Moye recapped that a letter will be submitted with a request to keep the committee updated about the report. She further noted that the end result will be in the Board of Education's court.

Council member Taylor-Moye questioned the committee about bringing in a director to find out what they are doing about security in regard to kids in the schools. And also to be kept abreast of what is going on in the school system. She asked if the committee was in agreement with someone coming in to specifically address what is going on in the school system.

Council member Martinez asked what they would do with that information. Council member Taylor-Moye said it should be requested specifically for the committee's information. She commented that the parents should already have that information.

There was some further discussion that the BOE hasn't even digested or completed phase-3, not to mention beginning with phase-4. It was noted that the money for phase-4 may go towards implementing some things that are contained in phase-3.

Council member Taylor-Moye summed up that she will request an update from the BOE to keep the committee apprised with a status of the different phases of the Gibson Report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER BRANTLEY MOVED TO ADJOURN  
\*\* COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED  
\*\* MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting ended at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Graham  
Telesco Secretarial Services