

MEETING MINUTES

Dominican University Edgehill Mansion, San Rafael, CA 94901

Monday, September 28th, 2015

In Attendance: Vaughan, Nick, Henry, Sarah, Ethan, Juan, Ruby, Leah, Tara, Alejandro, Abby, Danielle, Bilal, Liza, Ben, Hector, Rose

Absent: Josh

<p>6:30pm – Meeting Called to Order</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Call to order/Roll call; Approval of Agenda 2) Time for public expression (3 minute limit p/p) 	<p>Meeting called to order at 6:39 p.m 17 present, 1 absent, Rose arrives 6:55pm Ben motions to approve minutes. Ethan seconds 16 people approve</p> <p>Vaughn moves to approve agenda, Nick seconds, all approve</p> <p>Ruby thanks people for coming. Tara went on a class trip to Santa Cruz, now she's off school for a week (its not fair). Abby watched video of a fat cat. Ben's school is starting male volleyball team and he might join. Henry walked up stairs and realized he had to go back down, had to climb over dog gates. Nick's cat is slowly getting better.</p> <p>Welcome to guest, Becky Gershon from Marin Food Policy Council</p>
<p>6:40pm – 6:55pm – Welcome/Opening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Icebreaker ➤ Group Agreements Review 	<p>Icebreaker – 2 truths and a lie condensed to one truth and one lie Group agreements (popcorn style)</p>
	<p>Becky Gershon, guest from Marin Food Policy Council (FPC).</p> <p>FPC is writing and passing resolution on food access. As an initial group decided to learn more about Marin County and food access and hunger. Put together resolution to present to Board of Supervisors and having BOS sign it shows they are committed to supporting food access for the entire community. Passed around resolution to commissioners. Invited everyone to attend meetings every 3rd Tuesday from 3-5.</p> <p>Rose asks what does “good food” mean. Becky points to first “whereas” statement in the resolution that answers that question. Another commissioner asks how they got their data. They attained information from walking tours of different communities to observe, lots of meetings with community leaders, and data gathering. Leah asked about step-by-step plans. First step is to get resolution passed, and then try to implement the solutions through different agencies. Some governmental, others non- profit organizations.</p>

Deborah asked what organizations is a part of the food council (multiple organizations, some farmers and a lot of different city agencies within Marin County).

Bilal asked how we could help. They want an endorsement from us to support the resolution and Food Day. Want us to come to the Board of Supervisors meeting to endorse the document if we can. Want us to endorse through media and give a quote if possible. Becky state that a resolution doesn't necessarily solve the problem but that they will also release a report to discuss solutions and then work with community agencies to get those solutions implemented.

Ben asked if the policies do anything about food in schools. FPC want to include recommendations around gardens in schools and making sure everyone has access to nutritious foods.

Henry moves to endorse resolution. Sarah seconds. No discussion. Everyone in favor. Motion passes unanimously.

"Beyond the Surface" Discussion Notes:

- Hector and Alejandro lead conversation. What surprised Hector the most was the disparities between the funding in schools. He was also surprised by the fact that there are no teachers of color.
- Ben shocked by the failure of schools to remind students of a-g requirements.
- Ruby was shocked by disparities in a-g requirements and that English language learners have 5% completion of a-g requirements.
- Liza was fired up because of the disparities in funding between the THUSD versus the San Rafael and San Marin schools. San Rafael got more than San Marin by \$3000. Didn't even acknowledge Drake or San Marin.
- Leah sees schools that get more funding are able to raise more money than those that don't.
- Juan is really shocked by the disparities between the English language learners versus those who are not.
- Ethan asked how there can be resolve between the schools who get a lot of funding and those who don't.
- Liza thinks that the government should focus on the schools that need more funding.
- Abby feels that a lot of schools don't have much and her school just got remodeled and it's really nice. Feels saddened.
- Rose finds it scary that there's a cycle in which people are stuck in bad schools and poverty.
- Bilal talks about the big gap between the wealthy and not so wealthy and how the disparity in education is a result of that.
- Tara, 10% of low income students get degree after 25 yrs

versus students of high income.

- Ethan questions of schools that have more money should give it up to those who can't.
- Leah thinks that the state should be aware in the disparities of the amount of money schools get.
- Liza thinks that schools shouldn't give other schools money. She says that the schools with higher test scores get more funding. Thinks money should be added up equally.
- Vaughn, says the logic is flawed that the schools that get the higher test scores get more money whereas the schools that need the money aren't getting it.
- Ruby shocked by the fact that 70% of teachers don't think that some students won't succeed in college.
- Hector said that he thinks that the a-g list should be easier.
- Bilal agrees with Hector in kind of trying to make the graduation standards more accessible.
- Liza agrees with Juan that the a-g list is important in success and that the a-g requirements shouldn't be that easy as in anyone can do the bare minimum.
- Deborah questioned common core.
- Rose says that people can just slip through cracks, institutionalized racism.
- Alejandro asked what we could do as a commission to fix this.
- Abby suggests getting the information out there.
- Ethan says that kids' attitudes toward school are not positive, so they're not motivated to learn. They don't see it as a privilege.
- Hector asked about lack of motivation and how and economic status could affect attitude towards school, and role models. Alejandro mentioned non-profits. CEO of 10,000 degrees will help kids get through the a-g list and try to engage them.

What Can we Do:

Need to raise awareness and get more data and stats on inequity in Marin. Teachers of color, schools should hire more Ben says we could advocate for a better program, new systems of education. Try to integrate English language learners into the schools in a better way. Rose says improve motivation; try to make school more nurturing. Leah agrees, a lot of kids love learning but hate school because they're not as motivated. Ruby says her school started a program where students pick a topic they're interested in and they study it and think of a creative way to present it. Helps self- motivation. Liza says when she was younger, loved school, now, likes school, but now it's more boring right out of common core book. It's more about prepping for tests. Abby says she feels that they could prepare presentation to school boards and try to give them ways they could make learning more fun and interactive. Bilal refers to documentary saying how in 3rd grade, if you don't have the basics of learning, it makes it harder. Ethan

	<p>feels more connected to the people last year by listening to them talk about education.</p> <p>Advisory Committee Breakout Summaries: ATOD: Used the Community Wheel (greet Kiely with “Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round”) and brainstormed people we could talk with about alcohol prevention. Also had discussions about why these things might be happening. Friday Night Live at Novato High and San Marin and Hector invited Juan to attend his FNL chapter at NHS. Education Equity: Discussed when and where they will meet. First meeting, discussing what their policy should be, starting with data and ideas Food Justice: Established when they’re going to meet and talked about what they want to do throughout the year. Talked with Kiely and got suggestions.</p>
<p>8:10 – 8:15 – Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Bioneers ➤ Next Cabinet meeting is Oct 5th from 4:30-5:30pm ➤ Thank Leah’s Dad for snacks ➤ Next MCYC meeting is Tuesday Oct. 13 and will be different location (TBD) 	<p>Kiely gave a birds eye view of how conferences work and what the schedule will look like at Bioneers Conference that is taking place Oct. 16-18th. Youth need to attend the majority of the conference and the movie night on Oct. 16th, which is mandatory.</p> <p>Ethan motions to extend the minute by 10 mins. Ruby seconds. Unanimous vote in favor to extend.</p>
<p>8:15-8:25 Clean Up</p>	
<p>8:25-8:30 Closing and Adjourn</p>	<p>Liza motions to adjourn the meeting and Sarah seconds. Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.</p>
<p>Additional Notes:</p>	<p>TO DO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Email out: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minutes to MCYC • Email/letter to principals regarding Bioneers