

**MURRAY CITY-SCHOOL COORDINATING COUNCIL
MINUTES**

The Murray City School Coordinating Council met on Thursday, April 16th, 2015 in the Murray City Center, Conference Room #107, 5025 South State Street, Murray, Utah.

Board Members Present:

Murray City

Diane Turner – Chair
Dave Nicponski
Jim Brass
Brett Hales
Blair Camp

School Board

Cris Longhurst
Kami Anderson
Belinda Johnson

Others Present:

Ted Eyre
Janet Towers
Janet Lopez
Kellie Challburg

Dr. Steve Hirase
Richard Reese
Tim Tingey
Jennifer Brass

Ms. Turner welcomed everyone to the Murray City School Community Council. She commented that the group had just come from a tour of the new Hillcrest Junior High School. She thanked Dr. Hirase for the wonderful tour, and commented that the facility was beautiful and a great addition to Murray City.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Turner asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting on January 15, 2015. Ms. Longhurst moved approval, Mr. Brass seconded the motion. It was approved unanimously.

School District Report – Dr. Steve Hirase

Dr. Hirase noted that he had given information on the Junior High tour. He added that the project on Vine and 300 West is coming along quickly. He expects the maintenance department to move there sometime in mid-June, and by the beginning of the school year, the IT department would move in. The Administration would move in to the new facility sometime in October. Mr. Nicponski commented that the buildings are progressing nicely.

Economic Development Report- Tim Tingey

Mr. Tingey stated that he would give the mini version of his report due to the time constraint.

There are a few upcoming projects he would like to discuss:

- The TOSH Medical Tower- It is 80,000 square feet and will be a beautiful facility when it is completed.

- The TNT Gun Range- It is located on Commerce Drive, and currently under construction. It is a one of a kind facility that allows skeet shooting indoors.
- Security National- It is on 5300 South, west of I-15, on the north side. This project would be going to the Planning Commission in about three weeks. It is a very large office space, near the Pavilion Inn.
- Apartment/Commercial Mixed use Project- It is kitty corner to the new School District Office building. It is also going to Planning Commission in a few weeks. It would be residential units combined with office space.
- Ore Sampling Mill- There is not a proposal yet, but plans are to make it a redevelopment area. Mr. Nicponski asked Mr. Tingey if he could look into the piece of land owned by UDOT.

Mr. Tingey said they are looking into some downtown proposals that the Mayor would discuss later.

Mr. Reese asked Mr. Tingey for a quick explanation of the RDA process. Mr. Tingey replied that there are five RDA areas in Murray. RDA areas are able to use tax increment financing, so a portion of the property tax goes to financing projects, rather than the taxing entities. The Central Business District was extended an additional 20 years. The 20 year time frame is just beginning now. Of that RDA, the City gives \$400,000 every year to the School District. The Fireclay area would receive the first year of funding this year, and 12% of those revenues would go to the School District. It also has a 20 year time frame. Those are the two main RDA areas that deal with funding for the schools, noted Mr. Tingey. Mr. Reese asked if mitigation was negotiated in the Fireclay area. Mr. Tingey replied that was correct and it was 12%. Mr. Brass said the number was based on the estimated number of students times the weighted pupil unit at the time. Mr. Tingey said the School District would receive the first check this year.

Police Report- Chief Burnett

Chief Burnett said he received a report from the Resource Officer which was very similar to past reports. He spoke with the Riverview Junior High Resource Officer that takes care of Riverview Jr., Viewmont, Horizon and Grant Schools. His biggest concern is the sexting and snap chatting that is showing up in the Junior High schools. There was a case involving two thirteen year olds, and an investigation is going on. Most of the problems usually begin with social media, he noted.

There were a couple cases of bullying, one involved threats towards the Principal.

There has been a slight increase in theft of cell phones at both the Junior High and High Schools. There have been some teachers that have had their phones taken. Earlier this year, there was the first theft ring at the High School, involving some refugees that attended Granger High School. They were entering locker rooms and stealing purses, but have since been picked up and arrested. Dr. Hirase asked if the locker rooms had the ability to lock up purses. Chief Burnett said that was correct, but lockers are being broken into. Ms. Johnson commented that many students leave their stuff out in the open. Chief Burnett said they try and remedy that, but kids are trusting. He added that the security cameras that show who is coming and leaving the school have been helpful.

All of the School Resource Officers seem to agree that social media is the biggest problem; involving inappropriate behavior, bullying and sexting. Ms. Anderson asked who is primarily responsible for problems with social media. Chief Burnett replied that it depends on the problem and the severity of it. If it is a criminal offense, the Resource Officer would take action. The School Administration would also handle some of the problems. Dr. Hirase stated that often it is a joint effort between Administration and the Police. Ms. Anderson asked if it is a sensitive area because the phones are

the property of the student, or if it becomes public property if they are on school grounds. Dr. Hirase replied that it is not quite that simple. He said if the administration has knowledge of a problem, they have the right to check the phone. Chief Burnett said the school has a little more leeway with the kids and property; the Police would have to have probable cause and get a search warrant. He said that isn't usually the issue, because there is someone else receiving the messages and they are willing to share. Ms. Anderson asked if it was different if the problem happened when the students were at home. Dr. Hirase said the behavior usually always crosses into the school day. Chief Burnett said if the issue has reached a criminal level, it doesn't matter on their end, whether it is at home or at school.

Anti-Idling Discussion- Diane Turner

Ms. Turner said she looked into an anti-idling ordinance for Murray. She was given feedback that it was a good idea to start with education. She stated that idling impacts children the most, and it is a good place to start with the parents. She mentioned that she has several schools in her district, and particularly in the winter, the cars are often seen idling.

Ms. Turner contacted Salt Lake City for information on their anti-idling ordinance. She distributed a brochure based on the ordinance in Salt Lake City that the school children receive.

She asked what Murray School District was doing as far as anti-idling. She said she was aware of a curriculum preserving power and water in the School District.

Ms. Turner stated that tests and research have been done in Salt Lake City identifying the "hot spots" that are created in schools by vehicle idling. The hot spots are concentrated areas of emissions that create health risks, especially in children. She asked for some help in educating the children, who then would hopefully educate their parents.

Dr. Hirase commented that there really isn't anything being done currently regarding idling. He said information could be passed out to students and they could discuss it with the High School students, in drivers' education courses or something similar. He noted that the difficulty is that there really isn't a curriculum, unless it could be discussed in related classes. The children do not take a health class every year, and only a portion of the parents would be reached that way. The other problem is that kids don't really pass on information to their parents. He said parents and their children do not spend a lot of time discussing things happening at school.

Dr. Hirase added that idling prevention would be difficult to enforce, without an ordinance. He said the staff monitors the arriving children and watch for fights, etc. It would be difficult to have staff outside enforcing. He asked where in Salt Lake City, they are enforcing the anti-idling. Ms. Turner referred to an organization called Utah Clean Cities, that would come to different organizations and give presentations. Dr. Hirase said he would like to contact the administration in Salt Lake City and hear more about it. Ms. Turner added that Utah Clean Cities had met with the Salt Lake Schools, and educated them and provided a curriculum for them as well. Dr. Hirase asked Ms. Turner if she knew the length of the curriculum. He noted that the length of the curriculum might provide a challenge as well. Ms. Turner replied she wasn't sure, but believes it is a short curriculum.

Ms. Anderson said at her school they had an idle-free week that was sponsored by the PTA, and there was a PTA parent at her school that was passionate about idling. Ms. Johnson said she believes that there have been informal anti-idling efforts going on at most of the schools. Dr. Hirase added that each PTA group has a health commissioner, and that may be a good source also.

Ms. Johnson said she believes the schools have a transportation day, in the fourth grade. The City brings fire trucks, garbage trucks, etc., and possibly could have an anti-idling station, or demonstration. Ms. Johnson commented that the regional PTA is very strong and could guide her to the health commissioner. Dr. Hirase agreed and also said he would like the contact person at Salt Lake City District. Ms. Turner stated that she would get the information to him.

Mayor's Report- Ted Eyre

Mayor Eyre stated that the City should hear within three weeks as to whether Murray has been selected as the site of the Performing Arts Center. That time frame was confirmed by Mayor Ben McAdams., he noted. He added that he believes Murray has an excellent chance of getting the site. If Murray gets the bid, the site would be reserved and it would be funded next year. He stated that it would be critical to kicking off the downtown development.

Mayor Eyre said that they are really trying to revitalize the downtown area. The goal is to make it a more walkable community where people can mingle and sit. He said things have completely changed. The thought process used to be to develop roads, and now it is to make complete streets, with sidewalks, dedicated bike lanes, and parking places. He added that the emphasis on bike lanes is visible in the redevelopment of Vine Street, Winchester Street and others. He noted that presently 16 year olds connect with cell phones and bike or walk places, not necessarily needing cars.

He stated that there are three major components needed to revitalize the downtown area:

- Retail Center- There needs to be attractive retail space downtown; at the same time, not competing with Fashion Place Mall.
- Office Buildings- People need to work in the downtown area. The IMC Hospital employs nearly 5,000 people. There also needs to be buildings, such as clinics, and doctor offices to support that.
- Residential- City Creek Center has four or five major towers with condominiums and apartments. This sort of development will help bring people back to the center of town.

Mayor Eyre showed a map with some basic concepts of the downtown area. He pointed out a large building for senior citizens or assisted living. He noted that the proposed apartments would be high-end and provide housing for those working in the downtown area. This kind of controlled density won't affect the schools too much, he added.

Mayor Eyre said he will be attending an EDCU (Economic Development Corporation of Utah) Conference and is certain that they will say that the population in Utah is going to double in 30 years. The population in Murray will not be able to double because of the landlocked situation. The increased population do not want to live around the point of the mountain and drive into Murray to work; they want to live in Murray because of all it has to offer. There needs to be density to accommodate the people that want to live here.

He said that Murray does not have a high ratio of apartments to single family houses. The ratio is the highest in Salt Lake City and symmetrically decreases as you head away from Salt Lake City. He used Fireclay as an example and noted that the area is right next to the train tracks, and not a likely place for new houses to be built. Ms. Johnson commented that originally Fireclay was supposed to be business people with one child, and the economy changed, as did the people living there. Mr. Nicponski noted that the Mayor was making the point that the demographics are different now.

Mayor Eyre said the economy has changed also and apartments in Sugarhouse are being rented for \$2,200 per month. People are willing to pay the high rent to live where they work, he added.

Mayor Eyre noted that Murray Park is one of the three or four best parks in the valley, and some major improvements are coming soon. There will be movies in the park every other Friday this summer. The neighborhood is valued as much as economic development, he noted. Economic Development will come if the City is vibrant.

Mr. Brass said that he heard that the IMC personnel working in critical care need to be within 18 minutes of the Hospital. The Hospital Administrator has stated that it would be really nice to have nearby housing. Mr. Brass added that this development would not be Fireclay. He stated that the future workforce is the "millenials", who are not that concerned with owning homes, but want to live in interesting places. He stated that the downtown development has to be done right to attract that workforce.

Other Items

Ms. Johnson asked for help with Reality Town, a scenario that the children receive an occupation and go to different booths to get groceries, insurance, etc. The children really enjoy it and learn a lot. The School District needs volunteers for Reality Town at Hillcrest Junior High on May 29th, from about 7:45 to 11:00. It is very simple and easy to volunteer. She passed out a flyer with additional information. She gave her email and contact information also.

Ms. Turner stated that the next meeting would be October 8th at 5:15. She adjourned the meeting.

Kellie Challburg
Council Office Administrator II