

Gourley Community Council Meeting Notes

March 1, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 by Chairman Jones. The following were in attendance at the meeting: Brandon Jones, Shellie Averett, Allesen Peck, Megan Holmes, Haley Kelley, Virgie Montero, Angelica Cruz, and Maria Louisa McCauley.

The first item on the agenda was updating the council membership roster which was done. Principal Peck introduced Haley Kelley as the new faculty representative on the council.

The second agenda item addressed was the current Land Trust budget. Principal Peck reminded the council that they could only carry 10% of funding over to the coming year. She estimated that the council needed to spend \$2,550 dollars before the end of the year and suggested that the council approve the money be given to teachers to help them purchase books for their classroom libraries. Principal shared with the council that the school had started using a Balanced Literacy approach to ELA instruction and that as part of that program, each teacher needed a leveled classroom library. Teachers have started small libraries but would benefit from additional funds to build those libraries. Chairman Jones motioned that the principal's recommendation for the extra Land Trust money be approved. Virgie seconded the motion. A vote was called for and passed unanimously. Chairman Jones asked if it would be possible if there was going to be care over in the coming year that the money be spent during the PTA book fair when there was a buy one get one free option. Principal Peck stated that we could look into that and that she would submit an amendment for the current 2017-18 budget to allow for the purchase of library books.

Principal Peck presented a proposal for the 2018-2019 Land Trust plan to the council. The proposal asked the council to continue to fund the reading intervention program by using Land Trust money to hire a teacher for the program and also an aide. Principal Peck shared data with the council showing the effectiveness of the reading intervention program noting that last year 77% of students beginning the program tested out at a proficient reading level. Chairman Jones asked if there was anyone on the council that would like to propose a different use for the money. No response. Principal Peck noted that per early discussion, if the council desired to use an additional allocation of Land Trust funds for library books, that could be noted on the 2018-2019 plan. Shellie Averett motioned that the proposed Land Trust plan be approved with the addition of additional funds allocated would be used for library books. Chairman Jones seconded the motion. A vote was called for and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Jones opened up the floor for any additional business. A discussion ensued regarding school safety and building security. Faculty members shared with the council how emergency

drills were handled at the school. Principal Peck stated that she would forward to counsel members some information about school safety that had come from the district. She also talked with the counsel about the SafeUT app and how it had been introduced to 5/6 grade students.

There was a discussion about the last mobile food pantry and how some students had thrown their food throughout the neighborhood. The Principal Peck discussed that this had been addressed with the students the following day. It was mentioned that the stationary pantry that will be opening at the school on March 13th might help with this situation as it is more likely that parents will be the ones to come and use the pantry rather than the student.

It was noted that the next meeting of the community council will be April 12th at 3:30 p.m.