

**Madison Metropolitan School District  
Madison, Wisconsin**

**Art Rainwater, Superintendent**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Minutes for CITIZENS NAMING COMMITTEE (CNC)  
January 22, 2008**

**Wright Middle School, Library Media Center  
1717 Fish Hatchery Road  
Madison, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order by Chair David Mollenhoff at 5:04 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nikki Baumblatt, Tom Brien, Salvador Carranza, Cindy Crane, Aiesha Golden, Mary Gulbrandsen, Karen Helle, Peng Her, Kris Koval, LaVonne LaFave Bennett (arrived 5:07 p.m.), David Mollenhoff, Angie Thomas

MEMBERS ABSENT: Enrique Gandara

STAFF PRESENT: Ann Wilson – Recording Secretary

**1. *Approval of Minutes***

Kris Koval noted a correction to the January 15, 2008 minutes, Item #4: Touby Lyfoung should be included on the list of names that remain under consideration and removed from the list of names that are eliminated from consideration; Bong-Sijan should be removed from the list of names that remain under consideration and included on the list of names eliminated from consideration. With this correction, the minutes were approved by consensus.

**2. *Research, Evaluation, Elimination, and Recommendation of Proposed School Names***

(Packets included: Revised and Expanded School Naming Criteria (David Mollenhoff) updated 1/15/08; Update: Person Names, First Cut DM 1/15/08; Worksheet for Identifying Places and Idea-Concepts That Fail to Satisfy Criteria DM 1/17/08; Worksheet for Identifying Persons Who Fail to Satisfy Criteria DM 1/15/08; Summary of Non-complying Names, Second Round DM 1/16/08; Update, Idea-Concept Names, First Cut DM 1/16/08; Update, Place Names, First Cut DM 1/16/08; E-mail with Arlene Silveira and Attorney Dan Mallin re: clarification of definition of "nationally prominent." Materials distributed at the meeting: Second Cut Analysis, January 22, 2008 Revised 3:15 pm. – all attached to the original of these minutes.)

David Mollenhoff began by reviewing the information in his written information (*Revised and Expanded School Naming Criteria last dated 1/15/08*), including the suggested processes for reducing the names still under consideration to the preliminary final list.

He noted that he and Peng Her collaborated on posing a question to Board President Arlene Silveira via e-mail regarding the definition of "nationally prominent." He reviewed Attorney Mallin's response, noting in particular his closing statement to "keep in mind that there will be at least four names going forward, and if the Board as a whole were to take a substantially different view of 'national prominence' (or any other ambiguity), there will be alternatives to consider. If the committee is particularly conflicted over this issue, it also has the option to explain in a written recommendation how this factor/definitional question played into their decision to recommend more than the minimum number of names." There was a lengthy discussion with no resolution, other than Chair Mollenhoff's interpretation of Attorney Mallin's response, which was that the committee had the power to define "nationally prominent" in any way it determines reasonable. Cindy Crane noted that discussion of the definition presents a stumbling block and suggested discontinuing the discussion and moving on to a review of the names.

**Mary Gulbrandsen called the question. It was moved by Salvador Carranza and seconded by Mary Gulbrandsen to go through the list of Person Names (Second Cut Analysis, January 22, 2008, Rev. 3:15 p.m.) and vote on each name. Motion carried 11-1 with Peng Her voting no.**

It was decided that a "management by exception" process would be used. Using the document, *Second Cut Analysis January 22, 2008 Rev. 3:15 p.m.*, each group of Person Names (grouped by number who voted to cut) was identified. By consensus, the names in the groups were then cut (some individually, some in groups), unless they were pulled out for discussion or a vote. The names cut by consensus were:

Louisa Brayton	Alice Hough	Vinnie Ream
Mitchell Red Cloud	Fred Rogers	Rachel Hugo
Mark Maida	Clarence Rung	Frank Gambino
Verner and Paula Suomi	J.W. Clark	Philleo & Edith Nash
Carrie Chapman Catt	Elroy Hirsch	Dimetra Taliaferro Shivers
Carl Waller	Becky Buchmann	Anthony Curreri
Hermine Sautoff Davidson	Pearl Leroux	August VanderMeulen
Tony Farina	Roger Gribble	

The following names were pulled for discussion and then voted on individually:

Mildred Fish-Harnack (Cindy Crane withdrew her request to recommend not cutting) – Cut  
Touby Lyfoung – Vote to cut – 9 yes, 3 no (Her, Crane, Carranza) - Cut  
William Proxmire – Vote to cut – 9 yes, 3 no (Helle, Baumblatt, Thomas) – Cut  
Jeff Erlanger – Vote to cut – 1 yes (Brien), 11 no – Stays on list to consider  
Betty Franklin Hammonds – Vote to cut – 9 yes, 3 no (Baumblatt, Carranza, Golden) - Cut  
Michael McKinney – Vote to cut – 4 yes (Brien, Golden, Her, Thomas), 8 no - Stays on list to consider  
Anna Mae Mitchell – Vote to cut – 8 yes, 4 no (Carranza, Crane, Golden, Thomas) – Cut  
Thornton Wilder – Vote to cut – 2 yes, (Brien, Golden) 10 no – Stays on list to consider  
Paul J. Olson, consensus to keep on list to consider  
Howard Temin, consensus to keep on list to consider  
Ilda Thomas – consensus to keep on list to consider  
Gaylord Nelson – consensus to keep on list to consider

Seven names remain on the list of Persons to consider:

Jeff Erlanger  
Michael McKinney  
Thornton Wilder  
Paul J. Olson  
Howard Temin  
Ilda Thomas  
Gaylord Nelson

The committee next took up Place Names, referring to the document *Update, Place Names, First Cut, updated 1/16/08*. Following discussion of all names remaining on the list, it was decided to follow the same process of voting as used for the Person Names earlier in this meeting.

Linden Park – Vote to cut – 8 yes, 4 no (Brien, Helle, LaFave Bennett, Thomas) – Cut  
Valley View – Vote to cut - 10 yes, 2 no (Helle, Thomas) – Cut  
Blazing Star – Vote to cut - Unanimous by those present – Cut  
Owl Ridge – Vote to cut - 3 yes (Gulbrandsen, Her, LaFave Bennett) – 9 no – Stays on list to consider

One name remains on the list of Place Names to consider: Owl Ridge

The committee next took up Idea-Concept Names, referring to the document *Update, Idea-Concept Names, First Cut, updated 1/16/08*. The same process for voting was used.

Forward – Vote to cut – unanimous by those present – Cut  
Hmong-American Unity – Vote to cut - 9 yes, 3 no (Carranza, Crane, Her) – Cut  
Hmong Freedom – Vote to cut – 10 yes, 2 no (Carranza, Her) – Cut  
Imagine – Vote to cut – unanimous by those present – Cut  
Lady Liberty – Vote to cut – unanimous by those present – Cut  
Peace – Vote to cut – unanimous by those present – Cut

No name remains on the list of Idea-Concept Names to consider.

Chair Mollenhoff summarized that eight names remain on the Preliminary Final List.

### **3. Development of Process for January 29 Meeting**

Committee members suggested possible ways to make decisions about the final selections. Suggestions were a progressive rating process, voting on each name, using a weighted (points) vote, and using the

criteria chart worksheet to rate which names satisfy criteria. This last suggestion was selected and further refined to using Criteria 10-15, described as positive criteria, plus the Board of Education criteria. Chair Mollenhoff will provide a worksheet and directions as homework in preparation for the next meeting.

**It was moved by Mary Gulbrandsen and seconded by Angie Thomas to remove item a) (have served the longest period of time) under Criteria 13: Possession of meritorious qualities. Motion unanimously carried by those present.**

**4. *Adjournment***

**The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent of those present at 7:10 p.m.**

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