



## **CENTRAL FALLS SCHOOLS BUILDING COMMITTEE**

**Minutes from the meeting held on November 5, 2015**

**Meeting was called to order at 1:32 PM**

Committee Members Present: Victor Capellan, Kathy Gaouette, Matthew Jerzyk (Via Phone), Sonia Grace (1:35), Fabian Bustos (1:38).

Committee Members Absent: Cynthia DeJesus(Excused), Ana Cecilia Rosado (Excused), Troy Silvia (Excused).

Others Present: Rui Almeida, Robert Stack, Luis Torrado, Mario Carreno, Joseph Da silva and Michael St. Jean

### **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. Approval of the minutes of October 29, 2015 – Postponed until next meeting.
2. Discussion with Joe DaSilva about RIDE’s process for Emergency Repairs, Fast Track and Major Project Programs

-Mr. DaSilva discussed with the committee the role of the School Building Authority. He stated that the School Building Authority has the responsibility to oversee and manage the two funding mechanisms for school facilities – the Housing Aid Program and the School Building Authority Capital Fund. He reminded the committee in order to access these funds the District will need to complete a “Necessity of School Construction Application.” This will help the District and the City identify facility needs across the school buildings in the City.

He stated that Central Falls School District has been approved for “Immediate Health and Safety Repairs” to be repair mechanical units at Veterans Elementary School. This funding will be under the funding mechanism of “progress payments” which means that the District/City is eligible to be reimbursed at a 96% rate on a monthly basis.

Ms. Grace asked if this reimbursement term agreement only applied to this funding mechanism or also to Fast Track and Major Projects. He stated that only this Emergency Repair qualified for this type of financing. He stated that the Fast Track is a year-long process with a once a year

approval in the Spring. He went on to state that the Major Projects process is a multi-year process that depends on financing options, hiring the right professionals, architects, engineers, educational planner, etc.

Mr. DaSilva stated that Fast Track needs a Stage 1 application submitted by November 16, 2015 and a Stage 2 in March 23, 2016. He said he did not think it was realistic for a Major Projects this year. He reminded the committee that in order to undertake a Major Project this year the City will need to have the fiscal ability to meet the needs under Housing Aid. He stated that he could see us submitting something in March 2017. Mr. DaSilva finished by outlining what he thought would be a good process for us to follow in the following steps:

1. Keep the HS and all other buildings safe.
2. Work with the City to establish a Capital Reserve Fund.
3. Plan for a Major Project over the next 2-4 years.
4. Fix all other buildings.
5. Discuss the reality of the current fiscal constraints and set up a plan for the future.
6. In the meantime, prepare a robust plan to access progress payment opportunities as they arise. Be ready!

4. There was no other business before the Committee.

- Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Grace and seconded by Ms. Gaouette. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 2.22 p.m.