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From: Kendra Wong <kendrawong@gmail.com>

To: Kendra Wong <kendrawong@gmail.com>

Sent: Mon, Sep 26, 2022 7:45 pm

Subject: IVGID Lost \$26M Donation

Hi Friends and Neighbors,

I hope the Fall weather is treating you all well!

Serving on the Board of Trustees with Sara Schmitz has been challenging at best and infuriating at worst, but her latest actions take the cake. The short version is that IVGID lost a \$26 million donation from the Dave & Cheryl Duffield Foundation because Sara could not accept a reduced scope of work for a Rec Center expansion. The longer version is below for those of you interested in the details.

Sara's decision to vote against this project was short-sided and hurts our entire community.

I hope this project can be revisited when Sara is off the Board and this has not jeopardized IVGID's ability to partner with the Duffield Foundation in the future.

If you are so inclined for a call to action, here are things you can do:

- Public comment at our September 28 meeting - voice support for the Duffield Foundation, the support for the Rec Center expansion project, dissatisfaction with Sara's vote, and/or calling for Sara's resignation from the Board for not doing what is best for the community.

- If you cannot attend, you can [email your comments to Susan Herron at sah@ivgid.org](mailto:sah@ivgid.org) and ask for your comments to be distributed to the Board.

- Forward this to your friends and neighbors.

If you would like more details, happy to chat.

Best,

Kendra

The Long Version:

The Duffield Foundation approached IVGID to donate \$26 million for a youth and teen center, gymnastics center, and multi-purpose gym. The design estimate came in around \$33 million. As such, IVGID staff worked with the Duffield Foundation to revise the design and the multi-

purpose gym was removed. While disappointing to lose a component of the expansion, it is also understandable given the current cost of construction and the fact the design gave us flexibility to revisit further expansion in the future. At the September 14 meeting, the Board discussed IVGID paying the difference. However, without having previously discussed this expenditure and not having budgeted for it, I felt it would be inappropriate to suddenly spend community dollars. I wouldn't have ruled it out as a future possibility, but this project was moving faster than I was comfortable to make multi-million dollar decisions with public money.

The Duffield Foundation wanted unanimous support from the Board to move forward. The Board voted 4 in favor (Callicrate, Dent, Tonking, and Wong) and 1 against (Schmitz) to move forward with the project. Lacking the unanimous support, the Duffield Foundation has decided not to move forward with the project. It is of note that Trustee Schmitz later voted to send a letter indicating unanimous support from the Board.

The vocal minority speaking against the project were using the fact the general community wouldn't have access to these new facilities as their reasoning. Last time I checked, families, teens, and youth are all part of this community and we are the ones really losing.