



Town of Groton - Public Works

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Public Works
Administration
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Meeting Minutes

Permanent School Building Committee

Chairman Rick DeMatto, Vice-Chairman W. Gordon Lange, Robert J. Austin-LaFrance, Richard Monteiro, Robert Morrison, David Russell, and John Webster.

Thursday, August 21, 2008

7:00 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 1

Regular Meeting

1. ROLL CALL

Staff: Rick Norris, Project Manager - School Construction, Wes Greenleaf, Director of School Buildings & Grounds, GPS and Colleen Quattromani, Recorder.

Gilbane Building Company: Steve Kononchik, Vice-President.

JCJ Architecture: Scott Cerella, Principal and Jeff Beatrice, Associate.

Also present: Mark Oefinger, Town Manager, Catherine Kolnaski, Town Councilor, Dr. Mitchell, Superintendent of Schools, GPS and Beverly Washington, Chairman Board of Education.

The meeting came to order at 7:05 PM.

2. RECEIPT OF CITIZEN'S PETITIONS, COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a) August 7, 2008

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Lange and seconded by Mr. Russell to accept the meeting minutes of August 7, 2008 as amended. The motion passed with one abstention by Mr. Morrison.

4. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS (other than Subcommittee reports)

(a) PSBC Members

None.

(b) Catherine Kolnaski and Northeast Academy Elementary Schools

Mr. Norris reported on the two elementary schools for the Project Team. At the Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School the repair to the kitchen floor has been completed. The contractor is still working on an issue with the front door. An independent firm has completed reviewing the boiler installation and will provide a report of their findings. In response to the discovery of glass in the soil, the site contractor was requested to remove and replace 6" of top soil from the playfields at both elementary schools. This task needs to be completed in time for grass to be planted before the growing season is over.

Mr. Norris is working with local vendors to obtain such items as cafeteria audio cables and card swipe equipment at the two elementary schools. Mr. Norris told the PSBC that good progress was being made on the other punchlist items.

(c) Fitch High School Addition and Renovation Project

1. Department of Public Works staff

In an update on the Fitch High School Renovation Project, Mr. Norris told the PSBC that all areas inside the building have been completed with the exception of the Robotics area. Asbestos abatement was needed in that area after the discovery of asbestos in the mastic under the carpet.

The new parking lot in the rear of the school was also delayed by asbestos issues but there will be ample parking with the Merritt lot still available. Mr. Norris worked out a schedule with Mr. Greenleaf to allow work to continue without interfering with students.

BOE Chair Washington asked about the placement of handicap parking for the facility. The handicap parking placement was approved by the Planning Commission and will be completed as planned. She asked that the Project Team work to find a better solution for handicap accessibility for the building.

Mr. Norris distributed the current evaluation of outstanding tasks and the remaining project funds for the Fitch project. The three major items left to complete the project are installation of gas to the three chemistry labs, the hot water recirculation and the completion of the Greenhouse. There is also a possibility that more asbestos maybe found requiring further abatement.

Mr. Norris told the PSBC that he is working to obtain the Certificate of Occupancy.

2. Gilbane Building Company

Mr. Kononchik told the Committee that there is still about 4 of 4 1/2 weeks left till the Fitch High School Addition and Renovation Project is complete. Gilbane is coordinating with Mr. Greenleaf to schedule work without impacting student activity. Mr. Kononchik told the group that the Fire Marshall has given a verbal OK for the building.

3. JCJ Architecture

Mr. Ceella, Principal JCJ, apologized to the PSBC for the confusion over the PSBC meeting on August 7th. The Committee was told that the video furnace which distributes signals to all three school is now functional. It was a joint effort between the installer and consultant along with the GPS which resolved the broadcasting issue. Project installation is complete at Fitch High School and Northeast Academy Elementary School. The Catherine Kolnaski Magnet School will be complete on Monday. JCJ has also completed the design of the control cart for stage sound control at the elementary schools.

The security desk for "Main Street" is on order. JCJ has been coordinating the furniture delivery at Fitch and the final delivery is Monday.

4. Board of Education staff

Mr. Greenleaf let the PSBC know that funding is an issue for the Board of Education as they work to resolve all their issues with the new schools. He mentioned the cost of the lightning strikes which damaged phones, the burglar alarm and the fire alarm. Mr. Greenleaf is concerned that the rooftop chiller at the High School is vulnerable to strikes. There are various finishing tasks in the renovated areas of the school which need to be completed by the GPS maintenance staff as they were not included in the project specifications.

5. RECEIPT OF SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

a) School Building Phase II Committee

The School Building Phase II Committee is waiting for information on the Town demographics and the consultants recommendations for the next phase of the School Building Project.

b) School Opening Celebration

The Celebration Ceremony Committee met on August 20th. A final program was developed and will be created by the Fitch High School staff. The event is scheduled for Saturday, September 6th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. There will be music by the Fitch chorus and tours of the new classroom wing.

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A demonstration of the technology equipment has tentatively been set for the PSBC regular

meeting on Thursday, September 18, 2008.

7. NEW BUSINESS

None.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

The next meeting of the PSBC is the regular meeting on Thursday, September 4, 2008.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.