

Building Committee Minutes

Date: May 10, 2016

Present: Wayne Woolridge, Joe Boggio, Steve Fecto, Deb Carrier, Courtney Hodge, Sean Leary, Tom O'Connor, Shawn Lee, Jim O'Malley, Kaylah Hemlow, April Anderson, James McDonald, Kathy Bean
Wayne called the Meeting to order at 6:00.

Introductions were made and Wayne welcomed everyone.

Motion was made to appoint a Chair.

Sean Leary nominated Jim O'Malley, 2nded by Tom--approved

Motion was made to appoint a Vice Chair.

Joe Nominated Steve Fecto, 2nded by Sean Lee - approved

It was suggested everyone list some their strengths that they bring to the board.

Jim O'Malley. School Board, member. Wants to help and try and solve the space issues in the school.

Tom O'Connor, 11th year here and had been on previous building project. Understands the bond process.

Shawn Lee, Construction experience, is knowledgeable about specific codes and issues with municipality projects, fire, police, and school. Can interpret blueprints.

April Anderson, PTA president and parent point of view.

Sean Leary, School board, planning board, would like to help coordinate between other boards he is on.

Courtney, Parent and business owner.

Kaylah, PTA Vice President, budget committee, involved parent.

Deb Carrier, former student, teacher's point of view.

Steve 16 year teacher, also on former building project committee.

Joe, also on former building project committee.

Wayne, superintendent, lots of experience with the process. Familiar with bond issues and timing. Worked with numerous other school projects. Strengths on political side.

James McDonald, tax collector, zoning board member and budget committee member. Also wants to help coordinate with other boards.

Mr. O'Malley mentioned we need to define our mission. We need to evaluate what the board is looking for to be able to make a recommendation to the school board in a timely fashion. Mr. Woolridge suggested Sept/Oct. A goal of the committee is to decide if we need a building plan or if there are other options to obtain space that is appropriate and safe. The committee will look at policies and enrollment trends to back up what we propose.

It was asked if we have any funding. We do have some.

Mr. Boggio presented his slide show explaining some of what the space issues are that we have.

It was explained that our fire escapes are not to code but are grandfathered. We can do maintenance but if any upgrades or changes are made they must be brought fully up to code.

Mr. O'Malley asked if we have room to build out. Wayne believes there is space if we want to expand. This is part of what the committee will look at. Mr. Leary mentioned that Mr. Smith is willing to part with land that abuts the school. He wants to keep enough for two building lots. It was also suggested that maybe a partial land trade would be possible since some school property extends to the other side of Mr. Smiths'. Using the Smith land would allow us to address space and safety issues.

Courtney Hodge wondered about the property by the soccer field that is for sale. The cost is too steep to be effective and is not an ideal location.

Mr. O'Malley reminded us there is a tree on the playground that is dedicated that we cannot touch. It was felt the playground is not that old and should stay where it is.

There was discussion on how in reality the tax payers may not be happy since the previous building project was large. Mr. O'Connor mentioned the previous project did not address how much space was on the ground floor for the Elementary School.

For the next meeting the committee would like to have the fire codes and the proposals for updating the fire escapes. That project was 250,000. For two cross escapes with an enclosed wall. It was pointed out that would also mean a sprinkler system.

Mr. O'Malley - Points to consider: Finance, curriculum, aesthetics, security, student population, public response.

Mr. Woolridge pointed out that code compliance will always be an ongoing issue.

Mr. Boggio took the committee on a tour of the building.

Toured preschool, kindergarten, computer room, 1st grade, art room, library, fire escape and outside space. It was pointed out in the 1st grade if occupancy exceeded 50, codes fell under a place of public assembly. Is egress an issue in below ground rooms? Mr. Lee thought that hatch windows would cover this. There was discussion about if we add fire escapes, does that cover migration to these class rooms.

Mr. Woolridge talked about steps we need to take. The committee needs to have a basic idea of what we want to present and have talks with architects. Rough plans need to be drawn up before a proposal is brought to the school board. To bring the plan to the Department of Ed and Bond Bank we need to have input from zoning, fire marshal, utilities and anything that would affect the cost. Must have all this before we go to the voters. Interest is very low right now.

It was suggested to invite the fire chief and other stakeholders to individual meetings.

For the next meeting. Map out a timeline and invite the fire chief.

Future Meeting dates: Once every two weeks. Next meeting the 24th. 6:00 pm. Packet will be sent out prior to meeting. Mr. Boggio requested emails for notifications.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25.