

September 25, 2009
Keith Middle School
225 Hathaway Blvd.
Community Room
New Bedford, MA

MINUTES OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON SCHOOL BUILDING

PRESENT: JILL USSACH, TOM CLARK, JACK NOBREGA

ABSENT: NONE

The meeting convened at 6:30 pm.

The request to merge the Sub Committee on Facilities with the Sub Committee on School Building starting January 10, 2010 was before the Committee on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Atty. Clark. The Sub Committee voted unanimously to merge the two Sub Committees into one.

An update on the Lincoln Elementary School Project was provided to the Sub Committee. Ms. Ussach informed the Committee that the Steel Topping Ceremony was held on September 16. She also informed the Committee that the School's Building Committee meeting was held on September 16. Peter Zychowicz, the Project's OPM gave an update and stated that the neighbors are happy, there have been no complaints.

Mr. Nobrega asked what would happen if the school was not ready for September. It was stated that if the building was not ready at least the students from the current Lincoln could go into the new building in order to allow for asbestos abatement and demolition of the old building.

Mr. Clark asked about transportation for students from Ottiwell and Phillips Avenue Schools. He reminded the Committee that at the community meeting with parents back in early May it was stated that there would be a plan in place for September of 2010. He said crossing streets could be an issue. He's asked for School Administration to develop a plan and costs associated with that plan.

Mr. Oliveira stated current policy is that we do not bus students within a two mile radius of any school, but that a shuttle service is possible.

Ms. Ussach stated she spoke to the Superintendent regarding school crossing guards, however, that would be a City cost and the FY 11 budget may be worse than the FY 10 budget.

The Committee received an update on the Keith Middle School Project. The contractor has one roof leak left to fix in the front vestibule. Settlement cracks have been addressed by school staff and the contractor. There is a September 30 meeting being conducted by the EPA regarding housing issues around the Keith site that will include residential homes, the high school, Keith Middle School and the wetlands. Mr. Clark requested that the Superintendent or someone from Central Administration attend PIP meetings.

The private properties purchased by the City are being cleaned up by City personnel. The Committee was informed that the Doane Field House Project will have to be re-bid. The Mayor and MSBA have been in negotiations over cost reimbursement. Mr. Clark asked what the role of the City Council was, and he was informed their role is appropriation of funding. Currently portable trailers are being rented for the high school football team and girls' field hockey team. Funding is from private donations.

The McCoy Field Project is underway and was scheduled to be complete November 1, 2009. However, due to soil issues and the weather, the track surface and final site prep will not be complete until June of 2010.

The MSBA has approved moving forward with the new Hannigan Elementary School under the new rules and regulations with funding at 80%.

Ms. Ussach informed the Sub Committee that Tuney the fish at Sea Lab had passed away.

The School Committee voted on September 14, 2009 to submit Statements of Interest to the MSBA in the following order:

1. Campbell
2. DeValles
3. Winslow
4. Brooks

There being no further business, the Committee voted to adjourn at 6:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Lawrence W. Oliveira
Chief Administrator for Finance & Operations
Subcommittee Liaison