

BUDGET/FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, October 19, 2009

Oliver Administration Building

Present

**Subcommittee: William O'Dell (Chair), Paul Brule and Karen Lynch
School Committee, Administration and Staff: Diana Campbell,
Marjorie McBride, John Saviano (6:35), Edward Mara, Jane Correia,
Tracey McGee, George Simmons, Bob Arsenault, Vicki Boyle and
Carol Schlink**

Guests: Cara Cromwell, Ian Parker and Nina Murphy

Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

**MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the minutes to the
September 30, 2009 meeting; Karen Lynch seconded; the motion
passed by a vote of 3 to 0.**

**MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the minutes to the
September 14, 2009 special meeting; Karen Lynch seconded; the**

motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to approve the minutes to the October 5, 2009 special meeting; Karen Lynch seconded; the motion passed by a vote of 3 to 0.

Stipends

Bob Arsenault had requested an upgrade in the Performing Arts stipends as well as six additional stipended advisor positions. Jane Correia prepared a chart of current stipends, proposed stipends, and stipends paid for comparable positions at neighboring districts. (See attachments 1 and 2) Bob Arsenault, Carol Schlink and Vicki Boyle defended the request explaining there are an extraordinary number of hours that go into the rehearsals and performances of the chorus, theatre and bands. Carol averages 20 hours per week extra during the drama festival. The new academic probation policy and PBGRs have added to the number of extra hours required. Some of the bands will perform almost on demand. Currently 26 students are in the flag squad, many of whom come from needy homes. The Portsmouth band director receives \$6000 and their color guard director gets \$1500. Their request is an equity issue; their last increases were in 2001. Marjorie McBride asked which advisory positions are for after school activities that are connected to a regular class. Bob responded concert band, drama, marching band, symphonic band and choral director.

Bob Arsenault, Carol Schlink and Vicki Boyle left the meeting at 6:52 PM.

The Subcommittee will continue discussion on stipends later in the meeting.

Colt Site Work Fund Management

Bill O'Dell explained the recommendation was withdrawn from the full Committee agenda so that funding issues can be clarified. He reviewed the three funding sources: Parent Group, \$88,000 earmarked by the full Committee from the Colt loan, and \$15,000 promised from the District for equity in playground funding. Of the bids received, DaPonte's was the lowest, however, it is somewhat askew because it includes only the base for the outdoor classroom and not the stamped concrete or asphalt. George spoke with Mike DaPonte and he understands his bid will be disqualified. If we remove that item from the RFP, all bidders would have to be notified of the change and given an opportunity to re-bid. Cara Cromwell stated the parents understood the \$88,000 was to be spend on the outside of Colt Andrews, the \$15,000 was for equity with other schools and the parents' money could be spend as they wish. Bill said the District must use this \$88,000 on other outdoor projects at Colt Andrews as well, such as the parking area. Marj mentioned we cannot do the landscaping without the Versa Lock and cannot get it past HDC without the surface; we had to provide surfacing samples

and they would choose the one they like.

Cara and Ian Parker explained that the outdoor classroom space was actually a retaining wall; the elevation differences and the existence of two utility trenches at different depths prompted the stepped design and Versa Lock is reasonable and reliable. Paul Brule felt the cost for the wall as planned is astronomical and suggested the wall be constructed from concrete with an outside layer of Versa Lock bricks for aesthetics. The parents' design was recommended by an engineer. Items G and H in the specs are actually one item. Paul feels we have plenty of time, the ground now is very wet, a March 1 goal to start is appropriate.

Marj said another problem is the bid did not include fencing; the Town has been tolerant of our temporary fencing. There was some confusion about the use of hedging or chain link fencing along the Bradford Street, Central Street and Wardwell Street sides of the property and what HDC will allow. Marj feels we should go out to bid for the fence and bushes now. Nina commented that for years, the students played on the Common for recess where there are no fences. Paul's greatest concern is safety but feels the fence and bushes can wait.

The main concern is safety; however, the plan includes a line of bushes to be planted at the top of the wall with openings at the stair ways which will have railings. Karen took issue with the plans for

stamped concrete and feels the additional cost should be covered by the parents. Cara said HDC actually asked for something other than plain concrete, such as tile or flagstone. George suggested using granite instead of the Versa Lock, as it is less expensive. In any case, the plans will have to be re-drawn and re-stamped; this can be done by the District's architect. George also has an issue with stamped asphalt or stamped concrete because they are a maintenance nightmare; he prefers a flat surface.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to re-design the retaining wall with George Simmons' input, including changing the Versa Lock and changing the surface; change the bid specs; and re-bid the project. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Nina Murphy asked if the new design would have to go before HDC; it does not.

Cara Cromwell, Nina Murphy and Ian Parker left the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Guiteras Field

The drainage issue in front of the dugouts will continue to be watched; under normal, drier weather conditions this may not be a problem. The water faucet is working and a hose will be attached to allow access for watering down the infield, but not to be used for

drinking.

Athletic Field Concept Master Plan

No new discussion; this item will remain on each agenda until project is completed.

KMS Cameras

The internal camera system was designed and ordered by Paul Morris. Ed will speak with Paul about adding one more camera to cover an existing blind spot.

Bid Award - Walk-In Freezer

Jane reported \$62,000 in the school lunch account. Three bids were received; the two lowest bids were fairly close in amount; both companies would purchase the freezer from Paramount in Warren so quality would be equal. Inside access was not possible so, although not preferred, accessibility must be from the outside.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to award the bid for the walk-in freezer at Kickemuit Middle School to Lincoln Energy Mechanical Contractors for the amount of \$20,325. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

George left the meeting at 7:52 PM.

FY 2009 Budget

Jane reported the audit is complete; draft financials should be ready this week. She will review the draft at the Nov 16 Subcommittee meeting and acceptance by the full Committee will be at their Nov 23 meeting. Bill O'Dell would like one representative of the auditing firm at the Subcommittee meeting to answer questions and one at the full Committee meeting.

Stipends (continued)

Bill does not want to take any action without a Superintendent's recommendation. Since we are trying to bolster the science curriculum, Diana believes the stipend of the Science Olympiad Advisor should receive the same consideration as the theatre and music groups; also, what we offer for boys' sports should also be offered for girls' sports. Karen commented that it is surprising how many different activities have stipends attached, and some individuals do four or five activities and receive stipends for each. Marj has a problem with paying people for outside activities that are connected to a curriculum class. Jane explained they feel passed over because coaches receive raises and they haven't; their last raises were in 2001.

MOTION: Paul Brule motioned to send this request to the

Superintendent for a recommendation at the next Subcommittee meeting. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment

MOTION: At 8:00 PM Paul Brule motioned to adjourn. Karen Lynch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

/ca