

# **BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

## **MINUTES**

**Monday, September 19, 2011**

**Oliver Administration Building**

### **Present**

**Subcommittee: William O'Dell, Chair, and John Bento**

**School Committee, Administration and Staff: Marjorie McBride, Susan Rancourt, John Saviano, Melinda Thies, Mario Andrade, Pauline Silva, Cynthia Sadler and George Simmons**

**Guests: Tara Thibaudeau**

**Bill O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.**

### **Approval of Minutes**

**MOTION: John Bento motioned to approve the minutes to the July 18, 2011 meeting; Bill O'Dell seconded. The motion to approve passed by a vote of 2 to 0.**

### **Hugh Cole Elementary School Playground**

**Bill stated the Committee needs: 1) A playground plan that meets**

administration's approval; 2) approval of The Trust from a safety standpoint; and 3) acceptable funding levels and fundraising plans. The \$15,000 from the District will be awarded at the end of the project.

Tara Thibaudeau presented the equipment plans, timeline, placement map and financial plans for the project (attached). Because the pre-k / Kindergarten section has adaptive equipment, a special education grant was able to be used. This area will be completely fenced in, using some fencing materials left from the high school. The Fitness Stations and Basketball Court planned in Phase II will not be fenced. The Trust will inspect the equipment once erected and signage will have to be posted.

The cost of the project totals \$62,330; \$26,750 has been raised to date; the District will contribute \$15,000, leaving \$20,580 still to be raised. A number of fund raisers have already been planned and the Guiteras and Colt Andrews parent groups have been consulted. The outstanding funding will be needed for Phase III planned in a year and a half.

**MOTION:** John Bento motioned to award \$15,000 from Capital Projects to the Hugh Cole Playground Project pending satisfactory evidence of raising \$47,000. Bill O'Dell seconded. The motioned passed by a vote of 2 to 0.

Marj McBride was concerned with the lack of fencing for the Phase II

area saying fences keep people in and keep people and animals out; the Committee had insisted on fencing for the Colt Andrews playground and Guiteras was already fenced in; none of the parents' groups had to cover the cost of fencing. This is not a Trust issue. Susan Rancourt believes that after school hours and on the weekends, the public would tend to use the large town playground located just before Hugh Cole School. The Chair asked Administration to research the need for a fence and to contact the Trust for their input; Administration will report back at the next meeting.

At 7:13 PM Cynthia Sadler and Tara Thibaudeau left the meeting.

#### **RIDE / Asset Protection Plan**

Pauline Silva reported that through George and SMMA, the District was given the go-ahead to present the \$1.6M Asset Protection Plan on October 6th.

#### **FY 2011 Audit**

Pauline reported the preliminary audit work is finished and the auditors have half completed the field work; this is the second year of a three-year contract with the auditors.

## **FY 2012 General Fund**

**Pauline distributed the attached report; the general fund looks good; the final award of Federal funding has not been received so there are negative balances.**

**Pauline also distributed the attached Capital Projects report.**

**Mt. Hope Gym Wall: forensic engineers are on standby; they will determine the cause of the issue and what needs to be done to correct it.**

**Mt. Hope Girls' Locker Room: It is safe for students; this is a hydraulic situation and is not a quick fix.**

**Pauline reported the Retirement Board has informed us our rates for next year are going to increase 13% to 20.98%; we will be required to pay \$1,682,000.**

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: At 7:25 PM John Bento motioned to adjourn. Bill O'Dell seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**/ca**