

BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Monday, September 10, 2012

Mt. Hope High School

Present

Subcommittee: William O'Dell , Chair, John Bento, and Diana Campbell

School Committee, Administration and Staff: Denise Arsenault (6:40), Marjorie McBride, John Saviano, Paul Silva (6:41), Melinda Thies,(6:36), Mario Andrade, Pauline Silva, and George Simmons (6:37)

William O'Dell called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to approve the minutes for August 14, 2012, John Bento seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Facilities Update

Hugh Cole Asbestos Removal/Tile Replacement:

Pauline reported that the building is 99.9% asbestos free. The project was under budget and came in as an add-on because of thresholds. It was not part of the original bid.

Mt. Hope High School Girls Locker Room:

Pauline reported that the wall that was twisted with a concern of falling has been demolished. It was a non-load-bearing wall. This is a temporary fix. They do believe the overall problem is from an infiltration of water, but are not certain of the source. They are looking for the root cause of this problem. No one believes, however, that it is from the creek. In the meantime, the locker room is still operational. SMMA is thinking of breaking the job down into sections and bidding out each one separately. This will be part of Capital Projects. SMMA is concerned that the exterior portion has no gutter system to take the water away. Gutters are part of the future design. DEM does not come into play as long as the water is redirected onsite and not into the creek. Right now do not need CRCM approval. Our biggest situation is to get the gym fixed, and we do have a solid plan here.

Colt Andrews Flooding:

George reported that one of the issues that caused the flooding problem was that mulch had washed away with the downpours flowing down to the storm drains and blocking them. The water then backed up at the playground entrance eventually flooding into a

basement classroom. There was a lot of standing water in this classroom which caused damage to the wall board and will need to be replaced, but the flooring was not affected. This classroom will remain out of commission until the end of the week. The damage caused by the flooding is covered. George will be in contact with Rhode Island Interlocal Trust about design of the playground. A question was posed on whether a cap could be put on the window well. George said it could be done, but it is one of the windows that help to provide ventilation to that room. There are no drains in the floors, but there is a drain in the window well. In reference to the mulch causing the initial problem, Diana was aware of a special kind of mulch that gets solid when wet, but remains malleable at the same time. George will look into options for this type of mulch to determine if it is safe as it does need to be certified.

Guiteras Ceiling Fans:

Bill mentioned that over the months he has received complaints about rooms that are sweltering and the viability of ceiling fans alleviating that problem. George stated that the ceiling fans might give some relief, but would not solve the problem. There are some parents who have stated they are willing to donate AC window units, but there is a concern of whether they would be large enough and would it be cost prohibitive for them. As long as these units are not permanent, it would not be in violation of Historic District codes.

Another idea would be to use the portable free standing AC units which George says can work nicely at 12,000 to 13,000 BTUs, but ideally would need 14,000 BTUs. If there were 12 month school years, it would alleviate the problem as the shoulder months of about one or two weeks in September and again in May are usually the problematic ones. Bill would like this added onto a future agenda possibly closer to the spring to discuss this in more detail during a Budget Focus meeting where typically there are not as many agenda items.

Review/Discussion of Refurbishing Handicap Signs

George stated he is waiting on the actual signs, but the areas have been painted and are currently being used. George suggested in the future placing a steel pipe down into concrete may help alleviate any issues from arising related to the handicap signs.

Adjournment

MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 PM. John Saviano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

/kd