

MINUTES ~ August 24, 2005

Ponaganset High School Library

1. Call to Order

Mr. Gregory Laramie, Chair of the Foster Gloucester Regional Building Committee, called the meeting of the Foster Gloucester Regional Building Committee to order at 7:00 PM in the Ponaganset High School Library.

2. Roll Call

Mrs. Kecia Pierce called the roll. In attendance were Mr. Gregory Laramie of Gloucester, Mr. George Jacques of Gloucester, Mr. Raymond Fogarty of Gloucester, Mrs. I. Lorraine O'Connors of Gloucester, Mr. William Abt of Foster and Mr. Dennis Chretien of Foster. Mrs. Patti Fountain of Foster and Mr. Warren Ducharme of Foster were absent.

3. Chairman's Report

Mr. Laramie reported that he will be making a brief presentation to the staff of the high school and middle school on Tuesday, August 30, at the 8:00 AM district convocation. He will be providing an overview of the progress to date made by the committee.

4. Architects' Presentation

Mr. Laramie reported that the architects presented to the Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and each of the schools' Principals and Assistant Principals earlier in the day. While there were specific changes requested, the overall schemes met with their general approval.

A. High School General Planning Principles

Mr. Alex Ziemba and Ms. Tami Hughes from Aharonian Architects presented preliminary plans for the proposed changes to the current high school/middle school campus. The proposed plans include an interior corridor/bridge connecting the two existing buildings, a fieldhouse addition, expanding the cafeteria and an addition on the current high school. The proposed plan is to have the current middle school portion of the building house primarily the 9th and 10th grades teamed academic classes and the physical education areas, with the current high school second floor for the 11th and 12th grades with common spaces, elective classes and applied sciences on the 1st floor of the current high school building. The plans also include new defined areas for student lockers in each of the wings of the school as opposed to the current configuration of lockers along the hallways. Mr. Laramie pointed out that a major virtues of the plan was that each of the 4 component areas of the project – 1) classroom space at the perimeters of the buildings, 2) the core of the 2 story building (library, cafeteria, faculty offices, support spaces, computer rooms), 3) the new administrative wing and connector, and 4) the athletic complex – could built out to the degree the budget would allow, without jeopardizing implementing the overall scheme. As much as the budget allowed would be constructed, and if money from resource opportunities being explored became available, more of the project could be completed. Mr.

Maruszczak, Principal of the High School, commented on his general approval of the proposed plan, and that the plan provides the space to allow the implementation of curricular changes and opportunities described in the EdSpec. Concern was expressed about the small size of the existing classrooms in the middle school building, and it was explained that the degree to which they would be combined to make larger rooms would depend on what the budget would allow. The feedback from the committee was positive. Mr. Fogarty moved and Mrs. O'Connors seconded that approval be given to the architects to proceed with the general planning principles as presented. So voted, 6-0.

B. Middle School Preliminary Design

Mr. Mark Humphreys from Aharonian Architects presented the proposed plans for the middle school. Mr. Humphreys indicated that the design was based on the information provided in the EdSpec. The overall site strategy was presented, focusing on possible bus routes and location of parking areas, two controlled entries on each side of the building were identified, and the interior space was zoned to show team pods and a specials wing facilitating the team approach to teaching. A space within each team area was also identified for student lockers and toilet rooms which would allow for easy teacher supervision and keep the teams intact during the day. Mr. Humphreys informed the committee that one asset of the design is the flexibility and room for growth if needed in the future. Mrs. O'Connors moved and Mr. Chretien seconded that approval be given for the process so far and approval to go forward knowing that as the details are worked out some things will change. So voted, 6-0.

5. Sub-Committee Reports

A. A& E-Architecture & Engineering

Mr. Laramie informed the committee that the due dates relating to the Construction Manager at Risk RFP process have been rescheduled to allow for greater participation among potential construction firms. The original pre-proposal conference was inadvertently scheduled on the same day of a state conference. Mr. Abt prepared Addendum #1 for the CM RFP with the new dates as follows: Pre-proposal Conference on Thursday, September 15, at 3:00 PM at the High School and proposals due on Tuesday, October 4, at 3:00 PM at the Business office. This addendum was distributed to the committee and included the committee's responses to questions from bidders to date.

B. A/PEH & Rec

There was nothing new to report

C. EdSpec

Mr. Laramie reported that the High School EdSpec is not yet complete. The cafeteria and the academic academy areas need to be finalized. Mr. Laramie informed the committee that the final report is expected for the September meeting.

D. Energy

Mr. Laramie reported that the State Energy Office is funding the feasibility study for a biomass system. Should the committee decide to proceed with the biomass project, the state will also finance consultants for the project. Mr. Sparks reported

that he and Mr. Winsor have been forwarding the necessary information for the feasibility study.

E. Finance

Mr. Laramie discussed the Treasurer's report which was provided to the building committee members. Mr. Laramie summarized the report as follows: \$147k has been spent to date and \$38k has been earned in interest. The net amount expended is \$109k. Mrs. O'Connors moved and Mr. Fogarty seconded that the Treasurer's report be accepted as presented. So voted, 6-0.

F. Resources

Mr. Fogarty reported on behalf of Mrs. Wynette Dahlquist. The committee has identified 30 funding sources and projects. Mr. Fogarty reported that teams are developing and team leaders have been identified and additional members are needed to help with the grant writing for each of the projects. Mr. Fogarty also informed the committee that Mrs. Dahlquist is putting together a document identifying everything that the teams and team leaders are doing and there will be a summary format which the teams can use to approach businesses and other funding sources.

G. Site

Mr. Laramie reported that the Phase I environmental assessment has been completed and the site is clear with the exception of two old vehicles on the property which should be removed.

Mr. Laramie informed the committee that the well has been tested and is substantially clear however traces of two chemicals used in the testing process were found: chloroform which is used to clean the well after drilling and a gasoline by-product which is the lubricant in the well rig. The amounts found are above the reporting limit but below what is acceptable for drinking. The suggestion from the state is to let the well sit, pump it out completely, and retest it.

Mr. Laramie reported that the well is producing only 5gal/min with the desired amount being 25gal/min. The committee discussed the need to drill a second well. Mr. Fogarty moved and Mrs. O'Connors seconded that the well drilling company (Mulcahey's) already retained be used to drill another well under the current terms and conditions, which are 500' for \$5,993., and an additional \$1,800 if the well needs to be hydro-fraced. So voted, 6-0.

Mr. Laramie reported on the status of the closing on the property. All purchase and sales requirements have been met. The deed is being prepared and the closing will be scheduled for some time next week.

The committee discussed the possibility of getting some of the site work done this fall in order to meet the June 07 deadline. The committee agreed that once the closing is complete some clearing can begin however the committee needs to get approval from the planning board before construction can start. Mr. Aharonian agreed to contact the planning board to get this project on the agenda.

H. Technology

There was nothing new to report.

6. Approval of Minutes: July 20, 2005 Meeting

Mrs. O'Connors moved and Mr. Fogarty seconded that the minutes of the July 20, 2005 meeting be accepted as presented. So voted, 5-0-1 with Mr. Chretien abstaining.

7. Adjournment

Mr. Jacques moved and Mr. Chretien seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 9:00 PM. So voted, 6-0.

Prepared by: Kecia Pierce, Building Committee Clerk

Approved by: Foster Gloucester Building Committee, September 14, 2005