

N.S. PUBLIC FACILITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE (PFATF) MINUTES

Monday, December 10, 2013, 6:00 PM

Primrose Fire Station

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by PFATF Chair John Flaherty.

ROLL CALL: Present were John Flaherty, Paulette Hamilton, Art Bassett, Jeff Harris, Michael Johnson, Ken Thompson, Brian Vanhouwe, Bill Juhr, Tony Kopacz. Also present were Town Planner Robert Ericson and RGB team members Dave DeQuattro and Tracey Donnelly, Bill Connell, John Flaherty, John Winkleman.

Approval of Minutes 8/22/13 and 11/14/13

There were no additions, deletions or corrections to the draft minutes presented. All were in agreement.

Report by RGB of preliminary findings and space use options and estimates

After reviewing handouts presented by RGB, a consensus seemed to emerge for consolidating town and school administrative functions at Kendall-Dean and consolidating police and court functions at Bushee School. There was also preliminary confidence on the part of the consultants that this is feasible without any additions required at KD.

The consultants recommended we reconvene in one week (December 17th) after they further refine space and cost estimates.

One very important topic that was discussed is Halliwell. It was stated that it's been a longstanding consensus that earning broad public support for a bond will require a comprehensive space solution and that needs to address Halliwell. In order to do that there will need to be 1.) a definitive plan for when to decommission the school, 2.) how best to accommodate grades 4 and 5, and 3.) an estimated cost for #2. If the Town is going to tackle both non-classroom and classroom space needs as part of a single bond referendum (including other classroom space renovations), addressing Halliwell needs to be part of the recommendation to the Town Council.

The time-table outlined at the PFATF's September meeting anticipated a presentation of a PFATF recommendation to the Town Council with a public hearing in January (in order to have legislation introduced to the General Assembly in February seeking permission to have a referendum). There was consensus to postpone this presentation until February 3rd to allow the School Committee time to resolve items 1, 2 and 3 above. It was understood that this will require a concerted and aggressive effort by the School Committee.

Next Meeting

December 17, 2013, 6:15 p.m., location TBD.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Minutes respectfully submitted,

John Flaherty