

## **BUILDING (CAPITAL) COMMITTEE MEETING**

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2015**

**MCFEE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING**

**108 HIGH STREET**

**WOONSOCKET, RI 02895**

**Attendees: Joel Mathews, Peter Fontaine, Dr. Patrick McGee, Garrett Mancini, Tom Wrona, Brad Peryrea, George Lacouture, and William Webb**

**Chairman Mathews called meeting to order at 3:05 pm.**

- 1. Approval of minutes from meeting on August 6, 2015 by Joel Mathews seconded by Mr. Wrona.**
- 2. Discussion of the future use of the two middle schools.** Superintendent Dr. McGee presented a list of 29 middle schools in RI. 1 school in Middletown serves grades 4 through 8; 7 schools serve grades 5 through 8; 20 schools serve grades 6 through 8; and 1 school in Cranston serves 7 through 8. All of these schools are housed in one building. The good news from Dr. McGee's research is that 5-6 academy could be an elementary or middle model. Chairman Mathews mentions that the Building Committee should not make any hasty decisions. Then he proceeded to say that the actual job of this committee is to gather information and present it to the School Committee.

Mr. Fontaine reported that the moving cost would be approximately \$22,000. -\$24,000.; with bussing he estimated it to be \$100,000. Chairman Mathews asked for a more detailed report from Mr. Fontaine for the next meeting. Mr. Mancini asked if WED was going to invest in all of the elementary schools or if one would be left out. Joel mentioned Coleman and Bernon were both receiving required improvements. If a decision was made not to proceed with the plan, the 5 year plan would be modified.

- A. Chairman Mathews mentioned that he would like the opinion of the public. Mr. Lacouture said that the public would not like the idea of a school closing. Superintendent Dr. McGee thought that the 5<sup>th</sup> grade move would be appreciated. But that the closing of a neighborhood school would bring out the passion in the public. Mr. Mancini mentioned doing a survey. Mr. Lacouture mentioned we should do a survey of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and/or 4<sup>th</sup> grade for planning purposes, not the 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Superintendent Dr. McGee said very important to get message out that we are exploring possibilities. Expecting enrollment to decrease with the RISE Mayoral Academy and Beacon expansion. Dr. McGee also said we need to consider the education aspect not whether how many children we can fit in a building.
  - Mr. Peryrea to get numbers on tuition for the charter schools.
  - Superintendent Dr. McGee is to present a draft on how to survey the parents of 3<sup>rd</sup> and /or 4<sup>th</sup> grade students.
- 3. Discussion of the Career and Tech School.**

A. Mr. Fontaine said we need to remove the boilers from the roof. Then need to construct a new boiler room. Repair roof where boilers were and any obvious areas for the time being. The parking lot needs repairs. There are two structural beams that are in need of repair.

B. Programs to be added are as follows:

Welding equipment and modification ties into Electric Boat. No one north of Providence offers this program. We will need to change electric heating to gas.

Build a sky bridge from high school to new addition which would be two levels.

New addition would house a café and bank to create a finance academy. The café and bank would serve students and public. The WACTC van could be used to go to the elderly high-rise to pick up elderly and bring back to café and bank. Café and bank to be a learning experience not to be profitable. Also, Technology could teach the public to use high tech equipment such as cellphones.

At this time Mr. Mathews has to leave meeting to go to another meeting. Mr. Fontaine is acting Chairman for the finish of the meeting.

C. Mr. Lacouture likes the idea of café and bank. Concerned about additional staff. Mr. Webb believes we will not need any additional staff. The sponsors will train current staff.

D. Mr. Lacouture asks for price for addition. Mr. Fontaine said they have an amount from when the sky bridge was first designed.

For the next meeting, tighten up all monies for programs and additions.

4. Mr. Fontaine brought committee up to date on three items.

A. The sprinkler systems in all five schools are finished, tested by Fire Marshall and accepted.

B. The staircase at Coleman is 90% complete. The Building Inspector already signed off.

C. There was a crack in a cinderblock which was loose in the Villanova gym. Guilbane was contacted and a solution has been put forward. There was missing pins in columns. All ten Columns have been repaired. We are waiting for building inspector to sign off. There is no cost to WED. Guilbane is responsible for subcontractors. It is hoped that the project will be accepted before the start of school.

5. Mr. Fontaine motioned to table RGB to the top of next meeting. Mr. Lacouture seconded.

The next meeting scheduled two weeks from today on September 10, 2015. Mr. Fontaine motioned to adjourn at 4:15pm, Mr. Wrona seconded.

Submitted by: Cheryl Rondeau