



PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE

Merrimack School District
<http://www.isone.com/~merrpbc>

January 10, 2005
Minutes

Present: J. Vaillancourt, S. Heinrich, C. Morrison, W. Morrison, F. Rothhaus, T. Koenig (arrived late) and School Board liaison E. Coburn

W. Morrison called the meeting to order at 7:36 PM.

Transportation Plan

W. Morrison asked E. Coburn to update the Committee on the School Board's response to the Committee's report. E. Coburn stated that she and David Denton had been appointed as a sub-committee to review transportation options and come up with a proposal. They had met and determined that any proposal must stay within the amount in the proposed budget, include bussing kindergarten one-way, and be two runs. She also stated that they agreed that students in grades K-4 would not be bused on the same bus as 5th and 6th graders, but could be bused during the same time frame. She told the Committee there were a lot of issues that needed to be reviewed including computer programming to establish routes, fleet capacity and impacting the length of a teacher's day – which would result in a contractual issue. She said using larger busses is no longer an option as the deadline to order them has passed.

Members discussed their reactions to the meeting with the School Board on this issue and to the current situation at length.

Approval of Minutes

This item was tabled.

Upcoming Discussion Items

1. J. Vaillancourt and F. Rothhaus suggested the Committee review the traffic and parking situations at the new Middle School. Both felt there was inadequate parking and had grave safety concerns about the current traffic patterns.
2. W. Morrison reminded the Committee that it still needed to review and finalize a recommendation regarding "the circle" in the Masticola complex. E. Coburn told the Committee that there would be a warrant article in the spring for construction of the parking lot at the back of Masticola Elementary School, but that the parking lots on the other side of O'Gara Drive (to increase parking for the High School) are not included. She stated that there is not enough money in the Capital Reserve Fund to fully cover both projects and no additional monies are being requested.

3. S. Heinrich asked when the Committee would be receiving the annual updated Space Utilization Inventories. Members were interested in seeing how opening the new school had impacted utilization of space in the other schools. The Clerk agreed to contact Matt Shevenell to expedite this matter.
4. C. Morrison asked about annual Goals and Objectives. Members felt this could wait until after elections.
5. F. Rothhaus mentioned that school beautification has been an on-going concern of his, but he felt that this matter should be tabled.
6. W. Morrison also reminded the Committee about the plan to determine current school capacity and what capacity numbers would “trigger” the need to start planning for a new school. F. Rothhaus asked what type of school W. Morrison thought might be next needed. C. Morrison responded she felt the next building project would be a new elementary school on Buker.

Next Meeting

The Committee decided to meet on January 24th and have no meeting on February 14th.

School District Meeting Issues

W. Morrison told the Committee he hopes to have a draft of the Committee’s Annual Report for review and input at the next meeting as it will be due shortly thereafter.

W. Morrison and T. Koenig’s terms are up this year. There is a possibility that either or both will not be running for re-election. Members were advised to look for potential candidates.

Adjournment

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: T. Koenig. The MOTION PASSED unanimously. W. Morrison adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich