



PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE

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

January 31, 2005
Minutes

Present: J. Vaillancourt, S. Heinrich, C. Morrison, W. Morrison, F. Rothhaus and School Board liaison E. Coburn

Absent: T. Koenig

W. Morrison called the meeting to order at 7:38 PM. He announced that this meeting had been scheduled after the meeting on January 24, 2005 was cancelled due to lack of a quorum.

Approval of Prior Minutes

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to approve all outstanding minutes. Second: C. Morrison and F. Rothhaus. The following corrections were made:

July 26: Page 1 – Report on Meeting with School Board

1. MUES Playground – W. Morrison reported that the School *Board*...

September 13: Page 3

J. Vaillancourt stated... the Parent *Transition Group*...

November 22: Page 2 – Next Meeting

...only *Committee meeting scheduled* in December...

January 10: Page 2 – Next Meeting

...January 24th...

MOTION PASSED on a vote of 4 – 0 – 1. (W. Morrison abstaining.)

Annual Report

W. Morrison presented a draft Annual Report. After discussion, the word students was added to the following sentence in the third paragraph:

In October, the School Board amended the charge to include the busing of Kindergarten *students*.

In addition, the second paragraph was re-written as follows:

In May of 2003, the School Board charged the committee with specifying needed renovations at the James Mastricola Upper Elementary School, and with proposing a new traffic pattern for the Mastricola Complex. Due to time constraints, the committee was forced to split the charge. The first part, a prioritized list of the James Mastricola Upper elementary School renovations, was delivered to the School Board in December 2003. For the second part, the committee reviewed and endorsed the traffic concept proposed by a District leadership team in July 2004.

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to approve the revised annual report. Second: C. Morrison. MOTION PASSED on a vote of 5 – 0 – 0.

Space Utilization Inventory

W. Morrison gave each member the updated maps and usage charts for each school, except for the new middle school. Administrators there are still working on the usage chart, but had provided maps of the school. Members were asked to review the maps and charts and be prepared to discuss them at the next meeting.

Traffic & Parking

E. Coburn told the Committee that a warrant article for the parking lot behind JMES will be on the warrant. She asked members if they felt there would be any impact on the traffic at the high school with this new lot due to the facts that the District will be doing two bus runs instead of three and will be bussing Kindergarten students one way. Members discussed the possibility of again proposing that O’Gara Drive be made one way going toward Baboosic Lake Road either all the time or between 2 – 3:30 PM. Members discussed the use of the front parking lot at MUES/JMES and noted that the Committee still needs to develop a definitive plan for this area.

Other traffic issues that were raised were

1. Better signage at Thorntons and Reeds Ferry Schools
2. Enforcement of the rules.
3. Defined traffic patterns/plans for each school.
4. Buses for high school students during exam weeks.

The final issue raised was the current traffic situation at the middle school. Members noted they had received complaints as well as noted problems first hand. By consensus, the Committee decided to review the situation and come up with a proposal to obviate the situation. Middle School Principal Levesque and Transportation Coordinator D. Dumont will be invited to the next Committee meeting. E. Coburn was asked to tell the School Board and the Administration, at the next School Board meeting, that the Committee is going to look into this situation and that they would be contacting members of the Administrative Team for input.

Next Meeting

The Committee will not be meeting in February. The next meeting will be on March 14th. Members were reminded that filing period is February 23 – March 4. W. Morrison indicated that at this time, he is not planning to run for re-election.

C. Morrison made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: F. Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED unanimously. W. Morrison adjourned the meeting at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich