



PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE

Merrimack School District

<http://www.merrimack.k12.nh.us/PBC/>

Minutes

August 24, 2009

Present: D. Powell, R. Hendricks, G. Perry, S. Heinrich, L. Rothhaus, F. Rothhaus and School Board liaison R. Swonger

R. Hendricks called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

Approval of Prior Minutes

S Heinrich made a MOTION to approve the minutes of July 13, 2009. Second: G. Perry. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to approve the minutes of July 27, 2009 with member corrections and suggested additions. Second: D. Powell. MOTION PASSED.

School Board Charge re: SAU/SpEd Offices

R. Hendricks told the Committee that he had attended the August 10th School Board meeting and given an oral interim report on the consolidation and relocation of the SAU/SpEd offices. He thanked the members who had attended and he said he thought the report had been well received. He stated that the School Board wants to be kept up to date and he thought that since R. Swonger was the Board liaison to the Committee, he could provide regular updates to them. He also said he told the School Board the Committee would have its final report in November and that this means an aggressive meeting schedule and a lot of hard work. He noted that the Administration has asked to attend the September 13th meeting to discuss the Capital Improvement Plan. He reminded the members that last year the School Board had moved the SAU/SpEd office project to FY 2011, and that it might be moved again, but at least the Committee report would be complete.

Members noted that they had not actually made a decisions regarding the various space options and that decisions needed to be made regarding what the Committee would recommend.

S. Heinrich made a MOTION that the Committee consider leasing as “not a viable option.” Second: L. Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED. Members requested that R. Swonger pass this on to the School Board.

R. Hendricks asked members for comments and questions about the other possible space options. Discussion included the following:

- Are there enough additional parking spaces available at JMUES if the SAU or SpEd was to be located there temporarily?

- The Administrative Survey indicates that the SAU office wants 35 dedicated spaces and the SpEd office wants 28 dedicated spaces.
- Does the District's server need to be located in the SAU office?
- What building functions or staff positions might be combined?
- What is the cost of the needed or proposed renovations at JMUES?
- The District has land "available" on the following sites:
 - 1 acre adjacent to JMES playing field.
 - 13 acres on the other side of Continental Boulevard at Thorntons Ferry
 - Timmins site (intersection of Baboosic Lake Road and S. Baboosic Lake Road.
 - The back of the Merrimack Middle School site.
 - PTA kindergarten.
- The criteria to be used for choosing the optimal site for a new building should include
 - Central location
 - Utility availability and/or cost to provide utilities to the site.
 - Site development costs
 - Size of parcel
 - Ownership of the land (Does the District or the Town own it?)
 - Topography of the parcel – is it flat?
 - Traffic and other accessibility considerations.

S. Heinrich agreed to put together a chart comparing the various school properties using the criteria mentioned above. F. Rothhaus will research possible town owned sites.

Members suggested that a tour of JMUES during the school day would be helpful. R. Hendricks polled members about availability, and asked the clerk to contact JMUES to find out if a midmorning or early afternoon tour of the building on September 10th would be possible.

Members also requested copies of the updated school space utilizations and population projection reports as soon as possible.

A tentative calendar was worked out:

September 10th – daytime tour of JMUES

September 14th – meeting to discuss C.I.P.

September 28th – review of space utilization inventories and population projections

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: L. Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED with D. Powell opposed.

R. Hendricks adjourned the meeting at 9 PM.