



PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE
Merrimack School District
<http://www.merrimack.k12.nh.us/PBC/>

Minutes
January 30, 2012

Present: G. Perry, S. Heinrich, R. Hendricks, F. Rothhaus, L. Rothhaus, and School Board
Liaison G. Markwell

Excused: D. Powell

Also Present: Business Administrator Matt Shevenell and Maintenance Director Tom Tousseau

R. Hendricks called the meeting to order at 7:36 P.M.

Approval of Prior Minutes

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to approve the minutes of December 12, 2011 as corrected.

Second: F. Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED: 5 – 0 - 0.

High School Track & Field Update

R. Hendricks told the Committee that M. Shevenell and T. Tousseau had come to talk with the Committee about the high school track and fields.

T. Tousseau told the Committee that the substructure of the track is starting to delaminate. He said the track currently requires \$2,000 - \$2,500 in repairs per year and is in “fairly average” shape. He indicated the District uses Maine Track for maintenance and that they were the company that had installed the track. T. Tousseau told the Committee that repairs have been strictly to the top layer, but the repairs have been different repairs to different places. He indicated that a track has about a 15-year life expectancy and that he expects the track surface will need total replacement or large-scale renovation in about 5 years. He said that an estimate of the cost for replacement, to include taking off top rubber layer, grinding the subsurface, and installing new rubber top surface, would be about \$165,000. He said there are some other top surface materials now available, but he would need to learn more about them. Members noted that a new track is in the C.I.P for 2015-2016, but the cost figure needs to be increased.

T. Tousseau told the Committee that the current grass field is in pretty good shape, but that is because its use is limited to actual games; it is not used for practices. In addition, he said that other school uses have been taken off the field and that the field as currently utilized is at maximum use in order to maintain good game day field conditions. He indicated a turf field could be used virtually all year, for games as well as practices and other uses. However, he indicated that increased usage might bring increased staff and lighting costs. He also indicated that there would probably be a need to purchase new, specialized equipment to maintain a turf field.

Members commented that it appears that total costs to maintain a new track and artificial turf field facility would be similar to those of the current facility, but the field would be significantly more available for use.

M. Shevenell said that the lights at the high school field were “re-worked” last year and are expected to last 10 years before replacement is needed.

G. Perry told the Committee about that artificial turf is permanently striped in different colors for different sports; eliminating the need to stripe and re-stripe fields.

L. Rothhaus told the Committee her concerns about student safety and District liability because currently many sports teams practice at fields not located on the high school campus.

G. Markwell told the Committee that he wants user fees to support the maintenance costs of the field.

T. Tousseau will provide all Committee members with a detailed worksheet showing current costs for annual track and field maintenance.

Athletic Facilities Report

L Rothhaus provided the Committee with information the fields at Exeter High School as well as information about artificial turf.

Members noted that staffs at fields that have artificial turf are virtually unanimous that “Artificial turf is so superior to grass, that once you switch to artificial turf, you’ll never go back!”

R. Hendricks said the Committee is almost ready to put together its report.

New Superintendent’s Office

M. Shevenell told the Committee that Sullivan construction is getting figures for a metal building using the original drawings and floor plans that the Committee has been working with. He indicated that it would include “green” building concepts where possible. Members suggested that the goal was to get the proposed building costs down to a price point that might pass.

Committee meetings on cable.

R. Hendricks asked the pleasure of the Committee regarding a decision on taping meetings for cable.

S. Heinrich made a MOTION that the Committee continues to meet in it regular meeting location, and that it has no objection if someone wants tape Committee meetings for cable there. Second: G. Perry. MOTION PASSED 5 – 0 – 0.

Members noted that, when a new Superintendent’s office is built, the Committee will likely be meeting in the meeting room there and the meeting room there would have built in recording capabilities.

Minutes 1-30-12, continued

New Business

Next meeting will be February 13th.

S. Heinrich made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: L. Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

R. Hendricks adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich