

High School Facilities Committee
Date 11-03-08

Attendees: Chris Marion, Brian Mahoney, Daryle Hillsgrove, Brenda Hobbs, e Dr. Mohr, Sean Minuti, Eleanor Burton, Brian Cartin, Hal Lynde(selectmen representative)

Absent: Kevin Steele, Dr. Bass, Kathleen Sargeant
Public Guest: Rob Hardy

1. Sean Minuti opened the meeting.
 - a. Julie resigned from committee via email to Sean Minuti.
 - b. The committee discussed requesting replacement members. It was decided that Sean would discuss this at the next school board meeting.
 - c. Minutes
 - i. 9/29 Question on one section on the PES. Clarification required.
 - ii. 10/7 Accepted with minor edits.
2. Introduction of committee members to Hal Lynde and Rob Hardy, a member of the community.
 - a. Chris gave a brief overview of the committee's actions to date.
3. The committee discussed the criteria matrix.
 - a. Bob Sherman brought up that a member of the public had asked about privatization of the high school similar to the relationship of Derry and Pinkerton academy. Privatization would mean a private organization operates the school and the town pays per student tuition. The town would not have control of the school in this scenario.
 - b. The criteria for options were discussed.
 - c. The group decided the Marinance specs used for option evaluation would be the basis for the committee's high school options.
 - d. Changes could be made based on needs and further evaluation.
 - e. Vocational programs were not included and would not be included in future options. Vocational programs are only supported by the state when the state determines the town fulfills a need with its vocational program.
 - f. Brian C suggested grouping the criteria by items that are required and then additional items.
 - g. Daryle suggested that a list of operational definitions be defined as part of the final recommendations such as "School District Ed Specs". The School District Ed Specs define the program to be housed in the school.
 - h. "Dept of education Specs" would be defined as the physical and minimum curriculum standards defined by the state.
 - i. Hal asked if options would have background to support the chosen option before going to voters.
 - j. Daryle indicated the intention of the committee was to do that in order to ensure the voters had as much information as possible to make an

informed decision. Daryle expressed that options and the recommendation should be data centered.

4. A discussion on the projected number of students occurred.
 - a. Eleanor expressed concern that currently there are 2366 children in the district. If the option is being sized for 3000 students, that leaves growth for only 644 students.
 - b. The committee will contact the Nashua Regional Planning Commission to determine if there is an estimated timeline of when age populations will enter the district to confirm that current sizing would be adequate.
 - c. The Marinance report provided a core building for 1200 students and built for 1000.
 - d. The Windham high school was built with a core for 1400.
 - e. Currently the committee is looking at building for 1000 but has not determined what it should be cored for.

5. A discussion on focus occurred.
 - a. The committee concluded that kindergarten and pre-K needed to be identified as issues for the school district and as factors in the decision process.
 - b. Hal asked if a co-op had been considered. It was considered by the committee, however, currently there are no comparable towns that were considered to be available for pursuing this option.
 - c. Eleanor expressed that this committee report should focus on the high school population.
6. Budget Considerations:
 - a. Further discussion occurred on monies in the operating budget for professional services.
 - b. The committee agreed that a warrant article should be recommended.
 - c. Sean Minuti read a draft of the proposed recommendation. The group edited the proposal. Sean was to email it to the committee for review before the PSB meeting.
 - d. The committee asked if impact fees were collected for the high school. At this time they are not. To collect impact fees, an approved plan would have to be presented to the Nashua Regional Planning Commission to implement impact fees.
7. Community Outreach
 - a. Daryle indicated that it may be beneficial to have a community night in a few weeks after the criteria rating system is complete to identify if there are additional items. A community meeting would be to share current information and provide additional opportunity for the community to be involved.
 - b. Brian C reminded the committee that a community survey had been an option discussed.
 - c. Brian C. stated that the political and social concerns need to be considered in putting together plans. He felt people would be concerned with the request for more money.

- d. Hal stated the best option should be presented to the community. He also stated that once an option is presented, community outreach needs to occur to educate the community.
 - e. Brian M stated that the best option may not be the one that should be presented, as it may need to be the option that would get passed.
8. The committee asked Mr. Hardy if he would like to provide input. Mr. Hardy indicated that he felt the committee was charged with presenting the best solution to the school Board. He also expressed concern that the school board needed to be unified when the board selects an option and it goes to Voters unlike what has occurred with other options.
9. Recap:
- a. Sean Minuti will email the recommendation to be presented to the School Board for committee review and input.
 - b. Committee was to review the criteria and work to rate each option for the first criteria and bring to next meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Daryle Hillsgrove