

PHS Committee Meeting of 1-19-09

Attendees: Sean Minuti, Daryle Hillsgrove, Eleanor Burton, Kevin Steele, Brenda Hobbs, and Rob Hardy

Absent: Dr. Bass, Chris Marion, Hal Lynde, Brian Cartin

- 1) Sean Minuti opened the meeting.
- 2) The following minutes were approved, 10/28, 11/3, 11/10, 11/17, 12/1, 1/5/09 with minor edits.
- 3) Discussion on meeting with Marinace took place
 - a) Dr. Bass indicated Marinace could come in, and needed some dates.
 - b) Committee indicated they would like to try for February 2nd or have some alternate dates proposed by Marinace.
 - c) Questions for Marinace include
 - i) Impact of Kindergarten on the district. The softball field at memorial will be lost to kindergarten portables.
 - ii) Impact of kindergarten with respect to land constraints.
 - iii) Details about the renovation plans used in previous proposals.
 - iv) Full district schemes
 - v) Kevin expressed concern that it was too soon to have discussions with Marinace.
 - vi) Eleanor stated that she believed the previous renovation information from Marinace was more for converting the existing high school to a 7 & 8th grade building. She felt additional plans may be needed for definitive plans.
 - vii) Site constraints (staging, student disruption, facility placement, septic, HS0, useable acres, parking)
 - viii) Academics-ensuring it fit with the PHS Master Plan
 - ix) Target pricing per square foot.
 - x) Being Green and reimbursement
 - xi) Building configuration if addition/renovation
 - d) Sean indicated some of our options were not in the Marinace plans and meeting with Marinace could assist in recommending options.
 - e) Brian M stated that meeting with Marinace might help identify ways to phase in school upgrades over 20 years to get to completion to take into account the economy.
 - f) Daryle expressed concern that plans that require construction on site while children are in class may be very disruptive especially to Juniors and Seniors preparing for college.
 - g) Kevin Steel felt some inconvenience to the students would be acceptable in the long term for the town.
 - h) Dr. Mohr was asked what she would like and she indicated she would want to see a plan first.
- 4) Discussion on federal funding.
 - a) Sean asked who would be able to explain potential for federal funding availability.
 - b) Kevin S expressed concern that state funding may be reduced due to economic conditions.
 - c) Federal funding would be dispersed by the state and not a lot more could be determined about future funding.
- 5) Matrix Discussion

- a) Rob H indicated he rated obtainable low because he felt that shouldn't be a deciding factor for the option comparison. "Obtainable" meant different things to different people.
 - b) Question on the level of renovation for the Matrix. Interpretation by the members was that it would be a full renovation of the existing school for option comparisons.
 - c) Daryle stated that we had debated the criteria and now should focus on the results.
 - d) Brian M stated we might want to re-evaluate using the matrix when final options chosen.
 - e) Sean presented the spreadsheet to date with ratings. Options involving a new high school rated highest overall. Sean was waiting for information from a few members but had calculated averages and medians on all data to date.
 - f) Kevin asked if we should just narrow down the options now.
 - g) Daryle felt the data should be complete before eliminating options. She added that the Marinace information might provide clarification between some options.
 - h) Daryle stated there is existing data and it should be summarized and compared to the options.
- 6) Discussion on warrant articles
- a) The land warrants Budget Committee voted down article. Bob S explained the process to go to reconsideration. If the committee recommended the article, he could present their statement as new information.
 - b) Bob S explained the process to provide money to the committee through the operating budget previous discussion was for 25K for the committee to use. A question was asked about earmarking money in the budget. Eleanor explained money couldn't be ear marked; it is in there as a budget item. She added that if the money was not spent, a warrant article could state it could be returned to the general fund.
 - c) Kevin stated that he felt the committee should not support a separate land article that may be misinterpreted as supporting one option over another.
 - d) The committee came to a consensus to support adding the money to the operating budget. Bob S was to draft the proposal for the deliberative session. Kevin Steel voted no. Kevin stated he felt money to support the committee should not come from this committee.
- 7) Bob S explained the capital reserve would hold the money for a specific purpose. Bob asked if the committee wanted to present a statement for the deliberative session.
- 8) Discussion on voter survey
- a) Brian M stated that towards the time we complete the recommendation, a survey may help with public opinion.
 - b) Daryle stated we would need to identify what the questions are that we need answers to for a survey. Some questions should be used to gauge public knowledge of the school situation.
 - c) Kevin felt it was not the committee's responsibility to educate the public on the problems.
 - d) Daryle disagreed stated people need to understand the extent of the problem to understand the impact of the options.
 - e) Sean felt a survey would help identify solutions as a viable options

- f) Kevin felt committee isn't doing what he felt a building committee should be doing. Kevin wanted to be more active with the development of the option itself. Kevin felt strongly that he should resign.
 - g) Eleanor stated that she felt it was important that the committee come up with a type of building and where it should be.
 - h) Bob S pointed out that building specs are there. Meeting with Marinace to determine what can and can't be applied to an option.
 - i) Brian M asked Kevin to wait until we had a chance to meet with Marinace before submitting his resignation.
 - j) Daryle stated that everyone needed to be educated to the same level of knowledge to make an informed decision.
- 9) Next meeting- Sean will contact Dr. Bass to see when Marinace can come in, planning for 2/2 if possible.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Daryle Hillsgrove