

Central Berkshire Regional School District
School Building Project Committee Meeting
Thursday December 14, 2017

A regular meeting of the Central Berkshire Regional School District School Building Needs Committee, held at Wahconah Regional High School in Dalton, MA, on Thursday December 14, 2017 was called to order by Co-Chair Callahan at 4:30

ROLL CALL

Present: Tom Callahan (Co-Chair), Robert Archambault (Student Rep), Anna Duquette (Student Rep), John Bartels, Gary Campbell Jr., Wayne Cronnell, Mike Daniels, Jason Dion, Jake Eberwein, Andrew Garcia, Kerry Mason (4:31), Bill Mulholland, Jan Paxton, Rich Peters (4:35), Shawn Therrien, Aaron Robb, Superintendent Laurie Casna, Assistant Superintendent Melissa Falkowski

Absent: Shawn Armacost (Co-Chair), Mike Case, Bonny DiTomasso, Liz Daniels, , Todd Emerson Mike Hagmaier, Mike Hinkley, John McComish, Roberta McCulloch Dews, Chuck Sturtevant, Melinda Walton

Also Present: Recording Secretary, John Benzinger (Skanska), Members of the Audience

2. Validation of Agenda

Co-Chair Callahan validated the agenda as required by the open meeting law.

3. Response from Audience

None

4. Approval of minutes from September 14, 2017 meeting

MOVED BY MEMBER DION SECONDED BY MEMBER CRONNELL

To approve the minutes of the School Building Committee minutes of September 14, 2017 as printed.

Ayes: 16 members

Nays: None.

Abstentions: None.

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Presentation from the Educational Planning Sub-Committee on the work to date to include school visits with time for questions and answers

Aaron Robb and Shawn Therrien gave a PowerPoint presentation showing what the educational sub-committee has been working on. The presentation included the five schools that the committee has visited as well as concerns, advice and next steps. The presentation can be viewed on the School Building Committee website page.

Aaron stated that all of the principals from the schools the team has visited are willing to stay in touch with us and answer our questions as the committee goes through the process.

Melissa Falkowski asked which school the committee found most impressive. Aaron's personal answer was that each school had different pieces that they would like to incorporate into Wahconah.

In addition to Shawn and Aaron, the other members of the Educational Subcommittee include Anna Duquette, John McComish, Kerry Mason, Melinda Walton, Bill Mulholland, Jake Eberwein and Rick Wagner.

6. Update on the Design Team Selection Process

Laurie discussed where the committee is in this process. They have started a working relationship with Skanska and it is going very well. The MSBA has a 13-member design selection team. The School Building Committee was able to bring three representatives to that team. Laurie Casna, Melissa Falkowski and Shawn Armacost went to Boston on Dec 5. The committee received seven overall submittals for design teams. The top three finalists in order of the committee's preference were DRA (Drummey, Rosane, Anderson from Waltham, MA); RDA (Raymond Design Associates from Rockland, MA), and JCJ (JCJ Architecture from Hartford, CT). The candidates were awarded points by each panel member and at the end of voting DRA and RDA were close in points, with JCJ a distant third leaving the top two companies to be interviewed on December 19. However a couple of days later RDA withdrew their bid, leaving only DRA. The MSBA is still requiring the interview with DRA and that will take place on December 19.

7. Next Steps

- a. Kick off meeting in January with Design Team

MSBA will come out and meet with a small group and then will be present at the next committee meeting on January 11. John Benzinger from Skanska added that Paul from DRA was present in the audience at this meeting and Paul is also on the DRA educational planning committee.

- b. Public Relations Subcommittee Work

A subcommittee group will also start working on the design concepts. Gary Campbell and Andrew Garcia are getting the word out to the community and the elementary staff and parents. Committee members should be aligned with them at this point and start getting information out to the public. Laurie commented that hopefully on December 19th we would be all set with our design team and ready to kick things off. The logistics are in place and everything is going in the right direction.

8. Adjournment

Adjournment 5:20 PM