

GRS Cooperative
Building Committee and School Board Meeting
Minutes

Thursday, December 21, 2006
EFS Library

Present: Ben Mayerson, Craig Burcalow, Nancy Burleson, Bob Demers, Conrad Deutsch, Katie Kelley, Reed Leberman, and Jean Tremblay

Staff Present: Paul Bousquet, Karen Cloutier (away ~ 6:55 to 7:25), David Goyette, and Keith Parent (left @ ~ 7:35)

Other: Blair Banker (LKC) (left @ ~ 7:30), Wendy Beals (CARE), Jen Bennett (Berlin Reporter), Angela Brown (Board), Jo Carpenter (Board), Shelly Fortin (CARE), Pam Gralenski (CARE), Erica Grone (CARE), David Laurin (Banwell) (left @ ~ 7:30), Terry Mayers (CARE), Paul Partenope (Board), Shaheen Qadri (CARE), Joy Schoenbeck (CARE), and Heather Wiley (CARE)

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative Building Committee and School Board was called to order at 6:30 pm.

II. CARE meeting planning

David Laurin and Ben gave a brief overview of the EFS proposal. After the presentation, the members of CARE offered to sponsor an event (tentatively scheduled) on the morning of February 3rd (Saturday morning), where they would provide childcare (sledding or crafts), to allow parents to participate in a presentation/discussion of the Committee's work.

(task) - Karen will continue to coordinate the lines of communication between CARE and the Committee.

All CARE members left @ ~ 7:20.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Approval of minutes from 12/14/06

->After review of the minutes from the December 14, 2006, a motion to accept them was made by Nancy, seconded by Bob. A spelling correction was made to the text, **all in favor.**

V. Review of Board meeting on 12/19

Ben and Paul relayed the decision by the Board to create a two tier plan for the warrant articles. Some participants at the meeting expressed their concern, while others spoke strongly in support of it. After further discussion it was agreed that the Committee would support the Board's vote, and work to promote the entire project. A question was posed regarding if the layout would continue to change or shrink. The answer was no.

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Katie referred to the issue of the potential sharp increase in taxes, and the voters' perception that it will continue to climb at that level. She suggested that a ten year tax rate projection be developed to show that taxes will in fact level off, as a result of the necessary investment in the school's infrastructure.

(task) - Paul will ask Pauline to research and possibly create a document that Katie made reference to above.

VI. Banwell/Kennedy update

David Laurin reports that Banwell is now working on refining specifications of the inner spaces, and will send those plans to LKC for pricing. Test boring results will be in within a few weeks. Information pertaining to the playing fields has not reported back yet by HEB.

Several BC members asked if the fields would not be included in the overall proposal to which Paul B. said it is dependent on the price HEB comes back with. Ben said that possible savings from refining the plans further may free up money for the fields, but it is not a certainty. It was suggested that perhaps private monies could be solicited to pay for the fields. Still in question is the towns agreeing to a 25 year agreement for the use of the fields. Paul felt that Gorham would agree; Jo wasn't sure about Shelburne.

David L. and Blair left the meeting.

VII. FAQ

The Committee reviewed and discussed the final pages of the latest version of the FAQ document. Discussion ensued making edits, for clearer wording, accuracy, and brevity.

It was agreed that not all items would be included in a mailer. Some items would be used to "script" responses for Committee and Board members to citizen's questions; ensuring that all presentations and discussion were spoken consistently.

(task) - Katie will revise the document with all changes and then forward them to Ben for distribution.

VIII. Public outreach

a. Community organizations

Ben asked members to compile and forward their list of community organizations for the Committee to meet with.

b. Voter registration

There was discussion as to how and when voters can register to participate at the District meeting. It was determined that voters must be registered in their town, at the Clerk's office, no later than their respective Town Meeting.

A member asked if we could have the provisions available for citizens to register at our forum events. Jo felt it was not possible, due to issues of privacy, and a need for a town representative being present.

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(task)- Paul will compile a list of recent graduates from the GMHS

c. Information spreadsheet

No discussion.

d. Other

At the EFS teachers' faculty meeting on Wednesday, January 3rd, a member of the Committee will be in attendance to make a presentation of the project, discuss the pricing, proposed warrant article(s), and tax rate implications.

Angela expressed her opinion that it is important that the Committee speak to a citizen rep from Randolph, prior to making any presentation(s) to the community. She felt that residents of Randolph necessitated a unique approach to its discussions, which may not be similar to other member towns. Ben said he felt that one District meant one voice. There was further discussion, and it was agreed to take her suggestion under advisement.

IX. Other

None.

X. Next meeting

The December 28th BC meeting has been canceled. The next meeting will be January 4th, at the GMHS.

XI. Adjournment

->A Motion was made by Jean to adjourn at 8:30 pm, seconded by Reed.

wam:bwm