

School Building Committee Outreach Committee

Virtual Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020
Order Suspending Certain Provisions of Open Meeting Law

May 14, 2020

Present: Kim Bodnar, Jennifer Glass and Gina Halsted

The meeting commenced at 11:32am.

Kim Bodnar opened the meeting, noting that the Open Meeting Law requirement to have a quorum present in a physical location has been suspended per Governor Baker's March 12th declaration of a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She took a name roll call.

Upcoming Blog Posts: Ms. Glass shared feedback from a community member who felt the blog posts were too long. The resident suggested using links to documents with more detail.

Ms. Glass has also received questions from the community about re-bidding the school building project, given the recent slowing of construction projects due to the COVID-19 virus. Ms. Glass committed to speak with Tim Higgins about the legal implications of a re-bid and with Colleen Wilkins to understand implications for the bond. Once thoroughly researched, the question and answer will be included in a blog.

May 17th Blog: The committee agreed to provide a succinct summary of decisions made at the May 13th SBC meeting. The SBC voted to ask the School Committee to ask the Board of Selectmen to place an article on the new Warrant for a list of items totaling \$629K and \$200K for Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment. The next step is to meet with the Finance Committee.

Ms. Glass suggested a reminder that the original project budget gap was \$3.5M and that the SBC had originally considered requesting items totaling \$2.2M. She will emphasize that the SBC determined which items were most important to the long-term value of the project to the town and the school. The latest deliberation of the SBC was made in light of the current economic situation.

Ms. Bodnar urged transparency about the eventual need for some items on the list that may not be requested at a possible June Town Meeting. The Auditorium divider and a good portion of the FF&E are items that will be needed within a few years.

Ms. Bodnar suggested including information in the blog about the first steps of the renovation of the Brooks School, which will begin on June 8th. The topsoil will be stripped and stored, a fence will be erected, and demo and abatement will begin inside the building.

The committee discussed the timing of the next SBC and Outreach meetings, which is dependent on the timing of the Annual Town Meeting.

Gina Halsted brought up a virtual groundbreaking. Ms. Glass thought that Dr. Hobbs is making a video and committed to check on that. She wondered if a video tour of the inside of the building could be arranged. The video could include an overview of the project and a huge thanks to the community for its generous support. The committee agreed to view the University of Maine groundbreaking video to get ideas. Ms. Bodnar hoped

the video could include pictures of each member of the SBC and liaisons. Ms. Glass wondered about making a photo mosaic out of the pictures. Ms. Halsted volunteered to explore options.

Ms. Bodnar reminded the group that a date needs to be set for a virtual presentation to the town. Ms. Glass stated that June 4-9 has been set aside for town updates. She suggested asking for a page on the Town Web site as well.

Approval of Minutes: Ms. Bodnar made a motion to approve the minutes of 4/30/20 and 5/7/20. Ms. Glass seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by roll call vote: Glass, aye; Bodnar, aye; Halsted, aye.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 21, 2020 at 11:30am via Zoom.

Ms. Glass made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Halsted seconded. The motion was approved via roll call vote: Glass, aye; Halsted, aye; Bodnar, aye.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Gina Halsted