

**School Building Committee
Outreach Sub-Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 15, 2021
9:30am, Virtually**

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

Present: Kim Bodnar, Jennifer Glass, Gina Halsted

Also Present: Andy Payne

Call to Order: Kim Bodnar opened the meeting at 9:32am, noting that the Open Meeting Law requirement to have a quorum present in a physical location has been suspended per Governor Baker's declaration of a state of emergency due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She confirmed that all participants were present and able to hear and see other participants.

Town Meeting preparation: Kim Bodnar opened the meeting by asking for thoughts on the Town Meeting presentation. Jennifer Glass suggested showing a series of photos showing the current state of several sections of the building and a rendering of what that area will look like when complete. The committee agreed to highlight pictures of the Dining Commons, the Reed Gym connector, the auditorium, and a view of the outside of the building. Ms. Glass showed some examples. The committee decided to use the idea for the next blog post and in the Town Meeting presentation.

Ms. Glass shared that the slide deck would be posted to the Town website prior to the Annual Town Meeting. SBC Chair, Chris Fasciano will present. The committee agreed that photos of the inside and outside of the building would be of interest to the community. Gina Halsted suggested including an update on the project timeline & budget, the fact that Middle School students will be starting in their new building in the fall and the focus for Phase 2 of the project.

Andy Payne suggested including a financial update including CPA funds & CapCom funds. He cautioned that some residents may be sensitive to the use of these funds for the school project. He urged that the presentation also provide information on the private funding initiative.

The committee discussed how to present the Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment (FF&E) portion of the Capcom proposed budget. Mr. Payne noted that the town had underinvested in school system FF&E in anticipation of the school project. Much of the FF&E was due for renewal, whether we had a school project or not. Ms. Bodnar volunteered to supply some pictures of the current furniture. She noted that the State is matching 38% of the CPA funds, providing \$60K for the playgrounds.

Mr. Payne suggested having backup slides about contingencies and solar & energy credits. He thought we can expect questions about the value captured in the PPA and where we stand in credits coming back to the town. He also thought we should have an update on the timing and amount of the final trench for bonding (up to \$8.5M and bonded in early 2022 at the latest). We should know when that bonding would be reflected in resident tax bills. The residual value of the modular classrooms would be another topic to cover. Another talking point is how the pandemic has affected the project.

Ms. Glass volunteered to prepare a draft the presentation.

Additional thoughts included:

Advantage to starting the project when we did and cost impact of the pandemic on other local school projects which are a couple of years behind us. The Concord middle school project may not be a bad example. We should also provide a reminder that we are the first net-zero renovation school in the Commonwealth.

Blog Posts:

April 18: This blog will include current pictures of key areas of the project along side renderings of the same space when completed. It will also share a link to the slides from the latest SBC meeting.

April 25: No blog

The committee agreed to meet again in two weeks to discuss blog posts leading up to Town Meeting.

Minutes: Minutes from the 3/11/21 meeting were approved by roll call vote.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 29 at 4:30pm via ZOOM

Ms. Bodnar made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Glass seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously by roll call vote: Glass, aye; Bodnar, aye; Halsted, aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:14am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Gina Halsted