

**Town of Stonington  
K-12 School Building Committee  
Special Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, May 18, 2016  
7:00pm  
Central Office, Old Mystic, CT  
Page | 1**

**Members Present:** Rob Marseglia, Chairman; Kate Rotella, Vice Chairwoman; Julie Holland, Secretary; Rob Sundman, June Strunk, and Dan Oliverio

**Late Arrival:** Kathy Sanford, 7:16pm, Wendy Wilbert, 7:21pm

**Members Absent:** George Crouse and Deb Downie

**Recording Secretary:** Sandy Tissiere

**Guests and Citizens:** Jim Sullivan, Director of Finance, Town of Stonington; Marc Sklenka, Colliers; Bob Mitchell, Stonington Public Schools maintenance staff and David McSweeney, Stonington High School student

**1. Call to Order**

Chairman Marseglia called the meeting to order at 7:11pm.

**2. Public Comments**

No public comments

**3. Discussion with Colliers regarding Owner's Rep. contract**

The following motion was made by Kate Rotella and seconded by Julie Holland:

**Motion:** To enter into executive session at 7:12pm for discussion with Colliers regarding Owners Representative contract inviting Marc Sklenka, Jim Sullivan, and Sandy Tissiere as guests.

All: Aye

The following motion was made by Kate Rotella and seconded by Julie Holland:

**Motion:** To exit executive session at 8:47pm.

All: Aye

**4. K-12 Building Committee review of WVSS and DMS plans**

The committee reviewed and discussed the schematic drawings created by DRA. Bob Mitchell addressed the following concerns he had with the Deans Mill School plan: snow removal around the traffic islands and bus turn around in the front of the school and steep slope around the back of the building regarding where the snow would be moved; the boys and girls bathrooms on the second located on opposite ends of the building and no restrooms near the art, music and PT/OT classrooms; the teachers break room is near a student bathroom; the size of the outside storage area for the tractor, etc.; kitchen storage at both schools, particularly multiple freezers and refrigerators instead of walk-ins, which could be a better use of space.

For the Deans Mill School, some of the concerns of the committee were: if children go to recess after lunch, where will they go as the open space is located on the other end of the building; the number of small rooms designated for various uses and their necessity; spaces not being used for what they were built; how the spaces for OT/PT will be utilized; why there is a designated music space at Deans Mill School and not West Vine Street school.

Regarding West Vine Street School, Julie Holland mentioned the cathedral ceiling in the foyer being unnecessary space and a possible safety issue. Mrs. Holland also questioned perhaps the alcove at the entrance of the building could be enclosed for additional space. The committee discussed how enclosing the entrance alcove would result in additional square footage not included in the budget. Other concerns around the West Vine Street School plan were: the fifth grade team was not all together; the location of

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Page | 2**

the propane tanks; the size and usage of the special education spaces; the discrepancy of the plans not matching the educational specifications regarding a special education classroom for each grade level; children going through the custodial closet for band storage; teachers' restrooms being unisex and special education classrooms being near the cafeteria.

Marc Sklenka recorded the committee's concerns to relay to DRA. The committee wants to ensure consistency of use and equity of space at both buildings. Wendy Wilbert asked the committee to consider the schools are being renovated for future generations as well so the design of the buildings should not be specifically designed to meet the needs of the present.

**5. Adjourn**

The following motion was made by Rob Sundman and seconded by Wendy Wilbert:

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 10:12pm

All: Aye

  
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Julie Holland, Secretary