

Town of Stonington
K-12 Building Committee
Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 13, 2015
7:00pm
Central Office, Old Mystic, CT
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CYNTHIA LAOWIG
TOWN CLERK

Members present: Rob Marseglia, Chairman; Bill Sternberg, Vice Chairman; Julie Holland, Secretary; George Crouse, Rob Sundman and Mike Fauerbach

Members Absent: June Strunk, Deborah Downie, and Kathy Sanford

Recording Secretary: Sandy Tissiere

Guests and Citizens: Bill King, Stonington Public Schools Business Manager; Jim Sullivan, Town of Stonington Director of Finance; Paul Moore and Jim Barrett, DRA; Alicia Dawe, West Vine Street/West Broad Street campuses Principal and interested citizens

1. **Call to Order**

Vice Chairman Bill Sternberg called the meeting to order at 7:06pm

2. **Approval of Minutes**

There was a discrepancy of an overage in the amount of \$10,000,000 on Attachments 1 and 2 of the minutes for June 22, 2015. For the approved minutes, the amount will be annotated.

The following motion was made by Julie Holland and seconded by George Crouse:

Motion: To approve the minutes from June 22, 2015 as annotated.

All: Aye

3. **Report on Submission of Grant Applications**

The grant application was submitted on Wednesday, June 24, and hand delivered to the state on Friday, June 26, 2015. Mr. King and Mr. Sternberg worked on the final application. Mr. Sternberg shared items that have arisen during the grant application process to discuss with Mr. Barrett and Mr. Moore of DRA.

The following issues were addressed:

1. Why DRA did not share the information of the state mandated \$450.00 per square foot cap on the ED049 grant application financial worksheet when applying for a renovate as new grant at an earlier time? Mr. Barrett responded the state had set the limit in 2012 and had not adjusted it in accordance with normal construction inflation. He told the committee DRA presented numbers that were defensible and was unsure the full reimbursement rate would be applicable.
2. There were discrepancies in the final amounts presented at the last meeting by DRA. Mr. Barrett apologized for the mathematical error and stated, after discussion with the committee, Ms. Cahill (DRA) was able to adjust the number in agreement by the end of the meeting.
3. Why was the ED049 application provided by DRA not the same one that needed to be completed online? Mr. Barrett's response was DRA does not have the same access to the state grant application forms so they used the 2008/2009 forms applicable to their last project.

When completing the ED049 application, Mr. King and Mr. Sternberg needed a breakdown of the financial costs for West Vine Street School and Deans Mill School. They entered amounts based on information provided by DRA. They requested that DRA review the itemized financial worksheets to corroborate the accuracy of the information.

There was discussion around the grant received for the recent Deans Mill Roof Project amount needing inclusion in the application for the modernization grant. More discussion will be needed around this item.

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Mr. Barrett expressed his appreciation of the concerns shared with DRA. He told the committee The Office of School Facilities is going through changes and the Elementary Modernization project was submitted in the midst of it.

4. Discussion of Next Steps

- Architect Contract

Mr. Sternberg has the submitted contract and has not reviewed it at this time.

- Construction Manager Contract

The committee asked Mr. Sullivan if he and Ms. Savitsky had researched what project steps the committee could complete while waiting for state reimbursement approval? He replied they hadn't but would contact other districts to inquire how they proceeded. Mr. Barrett provided Mr. Sullivan contact information for other school districts DRA had worked with that had completed some work while waiting.

Mr. Sternberg is in the process of developing an RFP for hiring a Construction Manager.

Chairman Marseglia asked both these items be ready to share at the next committee meeting on July 27.

- Other potential contracts

None at this time.

- Other issues

Mr. Barrett delivered three copies and a CD of the Elementary School Modernization Study. He briefly explained the contents. Mr. Fiore asked if the study would be available on the town website. There was a discussion around access to the Building Committee's webpage and its accessibility.

5. Adjourn

The following motion was made by Bill Sternberg and seconded by Julie Holland:

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm

All: Aye

Julie Holland, Secretary