Town of Stonington
K-12 Building Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, December 16, 2014
7:00 pm
Stonington High School Commons, Pawcatuck, CT
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Members present: Rob Marseglia, Chairman, Bill Sternberg, Vice Chairman, Julie Holland, Secretary, June Strunk, George Crouse, Deborah Downie and Rob Sundman
Members absent: Kathy Sanford
Recording Secretary: Sandy Tissiere
Guests and Citizens: Drummey, Rosane, Anderson, Inc., Stonington public schools staff, community members and the press

1. **Call to Order – Community Meeting – Building Options**
   Rob Marseglia, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

2. **Informational Displays**
   For this community workshop, DRA created many informational display boards representing the options of the modernization of the elementary schools.

3. **Welcome**
   Mr. Marseglia welcomed and thanked everyone for coming to this community workshop during this very busy season. He discussed that DRA was there to explain the building options so the community could share their ideas through interactive conversation.

4. **Workshop Overview**
   Mr. Barrett expressed his appreciation of the community support during this busy time of year. He introduced the other members of his firm, D. Paul Moore, Katherine Miller, and Alan Johnson who, along with Mr. Barrett, would be facilitating the break out sessions.

   Mr. Barrett shared a presentation of the elementary schools modernization project.
   The presentation included the following items:
   - the project schedule
   - the purpose of the workshops: **Collecting** (visiting existing facilities and collecting data); **Listening** (understanding how the SPS works and what the community envisions for the schools); **Visioning** (working with students) and **Documentation** (will capture the overall understanding.)
   - Key Issues recorded from the first workshop: Flexibility/Adaptability and Fit, grade grouping, demographics/enrollment, and answers, recommendations.
   - Charts of the five options inclusive of square footage and current student population; and charts of the five options with projected 2019-2020 student populations.

   As the audience wasn't large, it was decided that, besides the children's group, there were going to be two break out sessions instead of three. The Contents group to discuss educational planning, alternatives and options and the Containers group to discuss building environment.

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5. **Breakout Sessions**
The audience participants divided into the two groups for workshops for discussion.

6. **Re-group / Re-Cap**
Once the group reconvened the following recap of the sessions was discussed:
Contents - Educational Breakout: This group focused on the following: Cost issues, where the 5th grade should be located, in the elementary or the middle schools; the pros and cons of a combined middle school and what renovation to the elementary schools would look like.
Containers - Buildings Breakout: This group discussed the following items: Space and adequacy of potential sites; the repurposing of West Broad Street school, and reimbursement options.
Children's group: The group of children discussed the different building options, questions of busing and the length of the bus ride, the current conditions of the schools and classroom size.

Mr. Barrett said he would bring the results of these break out sessions back to his team to be synchronized and brought into the results.

7. **Concluding Comments**
Chairman Marseglia again thanked everyone for coming. He reminded everyone that the next community workshop is scheduled for Monday, January 12, 2015. Also, he assured the audience the committee knew the importance of West Broad Street school and having it remain a town building. The K-12 Building Committee will consider all aspects of information from the community, staff and students to make the best decision for the future of the school district.

Lastly, Mr. Marseglia recognized and congratulated Mike Fauerbach who has been appointed to the K-12 Building Committee.

8. **Adjourn**
The following motion was made by Julie Holland and seconded by Rob Sundman:
Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8.42pm.
All: Aye.

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Julie Holland, Secretary