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Town of Stonington
K-12 Building Committee
Special Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 18, 2014
7:00 pm
Stonington High School Commons, Pawcatuck, CT

Member present: Rob Marseglia, Chairman, Julie Holland, Secretary, Kathy Sanford, June Strunk, Deb Downey and Rob Sundman
Late Arrival: George Crouse, 7:15pm
Members absent: Bill Sternberg,
Recording Secretary: Sandy Tissiere
Guests and Citizens: Drummey, Rosane, Anderson, Inc., Stonington community members and staff, and members of the press

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1. **Call to Order – Community Meeting – Information Gathering**
   Rob Marseglia, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:16pm.

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

3. **Welcome**
   Chairman Marseglia welcomed the audience to the first community workshop for the modernization of the elementary schools study. This workshop is an opportunity for the community to share their views on the future of Stonington schools. The goal of the K-12 Building Committee is to choose the best project option for the best educational results for the students. Chairman Marseglia introduced the Building Committee members and their representation status. He then introduced Jim Barrett, Principal, for Drummey, Rosane, Anderson, Inc. (DRA)

   Mr. Barrett took the floor and thanked the audience for coming and their participation. He shared that his team from DRA were there to listen and learn the aspirations and goals of Stonington Public Schools. His team, Scot Woodin, Alan Johnson and D. Paul Moore were introduced and they each spoke of their role on the DRA team. Mr. Barrett's presentation displayed the many considerations and options that are being discussed for the upgrade of the school district.

4. **Workshop Overview**
   The next part of the program was for the audience participants to divide into three workshops facilitated by the DRA team members. The three workshops were "Containers" to discuss the physical facilities and sites in the school district; "Contents" that focused on the issues and needs of the students and "Currents" that centered on demographics.

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

6. **Re-group / Re-Cap**

The group reconvened at 8:21pm for a wrap-up. To recap: Mr. Moore reported the Contents groups' concerns included space that isn't designed for what it is being used; no large gathering spaces, and parking issues that worked against community participation. A positive attribute is the Sensory Garden at West Vine Street School. Mr. Woodin spoke of the Containers groups' concerns that included equipment problems, standardizing all schools, and energy efficiency. Mr. Barrett discussed the Currents groups' conversation around declining enrollment; designing an environment flexible enough to meets the changing needs of learning; technology; mainstreaming and school safety.

7. **Concluding Comments**

Mr. Marseglia again thanked everyone for coming saying it was great to see such a large turnout. He reminded everyone of the upcoming workshops in December and January. He reiterated the importance of the exploration of the options of modernization to ensure the best educational environment for Stonington's children.

8. **Adjourn**

The following motion was made by Julie Holland and seconded by Kathy Sanford:
Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm
All: Aye

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Julie Holland, Secretary