

**BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING**

Via Video Conference
September 14, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Giuliano Cecchinelli, Chair - (BC)
Tim Boltin, Vice Chair - (BC)
Guy Isabelle – (At-Large)
Andrew McMichael

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

David Wells, Superintendent
Hayden Coon, BCEMS Principal
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director
Scott Griggs, CVCC Assistant Director
Jennifer Nye, BTMES Principal

GUESTS PRESENT:

Kerri Lamb

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, September 14, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., which was held via video conference.

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

None.

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – August 10, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes of the August 10, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Facilities Update – Re-Entry/Re-Opening of Schools

Mr. Evans met with Jack Mitchell regarding the generator for BTMES. Mr. Mitchell advised that the Town of Barre is on the verge of signing off on the purchase of the generator. Once ordered, it will take approximately 18 weeks for delivery. Barre Town officials have advised that they want the concrete pad installed prior to delivery of the generator. Installation of the concrete pad will include coordination with an electrician.

In response to a query regarding the ‘rust’ on the bollards at SHS, Mr. Evans advised that it has been determined that the ‘rust’ is actually fragments (filings) resulting from cutting the chains that connect the bollards. The filings can be cleaned. Mr. Cecchinelli offered to ‘clean’ the bollards and will do so outside of school hours.

It was confirmed that there are more parent drop-offs and pick-ups (under COVID re-opening). Mr. Coon and Mrs. Nye advised that drop-offs and pick-ups are working well. A few adjustments were necessary, and there are expected delays due to the start of Kindergarten and Pre-school. In response to a query, the Committee was advised that BTMES has been in contact with neighboring businesses, and is working with the Barre Town Police Department to help keep the flow of traffic moving. BCEMS is located far enough away from other roads and businesses, that any type of ‘bottle neck’ will not impact Barre City traffic/businesses. Parking and entry into SHS has worked seamlessly. The entry process has worked so well that administrators have adjusted the school day to allow for more academic time. Mr. Griggs reported that entry into CVCC has gone very smoothly and that the food service is also working well. There are no issues with parking for SHS or CVCC students. CVCC has a designated parking area, and SHS which also has a designated student parking area, is operating with approximately half of its students on the days for in-person instruction.

In response to a query regarding possible difficulties obtaining accurate temperatures during cold weather, Mrs. Nye advised that administrators are working to mitigate any issues, and that oral thermometers (with disposable plastic sleeves) are on hand to use as a back-up. Mr. Evans cautioned that by Code, heaters are not allowed in the screening tents. Mr. Evans advised that if tents are connected to the school buildings, much cold air will enter the buildings.

In response to a query, Mr. Wells advised that if there is a positive COVID case in one of the buildings, only the building with the positive case will be closed and revert to 100% on-line learning. State guidelines and the Vermont Department of Health would determine when the school would re-open.

5.2 Completed Projects

BTMES – The canopy removal was completed. Sidewalk repairs were also part of this project. The front of the building looks great. Repairs were also made to a section of the A Wing roof and to a small section of asphalt by the woodchip building

BCMES – Phase 1 of the bus loop reconfiguration was completed and is working well.

SHS – The underground heating line replacement project is nearing completion. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by the end of this week.

6. Old Business

6.1 SEA Project Update/Bids

Mr. Evans advised that at last Thursday's Board meeting, it was agreed to move forward on the project, and to contract with PeakCM. PeakCM representatives have advised that the construction portion of the project is expected to take 7 to 8 months. Mr. Evans advised that he and other administrators met with architect David Laurin to discuss possible areas for savings. It was noted that the building is 'bare bones' and well designed. The Board had requested that the design team research possible areas for savings. Possible areas of savings that were discussed include; not installing the generator and generator switch, removal of coloring (for the concrete floors), and replacing copper wires with aluminum wires. In response to a query, it was noted that the bid was approved as legally required. The two lowest bids were not within 1% of each other, and the lowest bid was accepted. Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding savings relating to possible changes to the parking lot and/or furnishings. Mr. Wells advised that discussions were held regarding the parking lot and it was decided that for maintenance purposes, the parking lot should be paved, however, discussion was held regarding paving only the base layer. Mr. Laurin advised that not installing the second (top) layer would result in very little savings. It may be possible to find some surplus furniture from the other school buildings, but most likely not enough to make a significant difference. It may be possible to look into other budget portions to assist with furniture purchases. In response to a query regarding maintenance of the new building, Mr. Evans advised that he has started to craft a document identifying what will be necessary for maintenance personnel. Mr. Evans advised that it will be necessary to have a maintenance/custodial/grounds-person on site.

7. Other Business

Electric Buses – Mr. Evans received an update from grant personnel advising that a vendor (Lion Bus Company) has been selected to provide electric buses. A meeting has been tentatively planned, to meet with Lion Bus Company representatives regarding the type of power required for the charging stations. After requirements are known, Mr. Evans will convey the information to Green Mountain Power. It was clarified that the bus charging stations do not work for personal vehicles. Brief discussion was held regarding the possibility of providing charging stations for personal vehicles. It was noted that if those types of charging stations were to be installed, they would need to be installed in the faculty parking lots, and there would need to be a mechanism in place to allow users to pay for their electrical use.

Storm Water Run-off Retention Project – Friends of the Winooski – Mr. Evans has not received any updates. Mr. Evans will contact Friends of the Winooski for an update.

Kerri Lamb addressed the Committee regarding a possible improvement to the entrance to the football area. Mrs. Lamb has submitted a handout that provides ideas for a new entrance to the football field (similar to the entrance at South Burlington High School). A copy of the handout will be provided to Mrs. Gilbert so that it may be added to the Committee Agenda/Back-up posted on the BUUSD web site. Mrs. Lamb asked for the Committee's approval to contact local businesses regarding options for a new entryway, including fencing options. Mrs. Lamb would like to move forward with identifying various options and related pricing. One of the options is to have an entrance structure that could also accommodate a concession stand and/or ticket sales. Mr. Evans requested that a proposal be brought to the Facilities Committee before too much action is taken. Mr. Evans cautioned that any changes to the entry to the football field area should not impede the entry of large machinery (e.g. vacuum trucks and power trucks) onto the field. Large machinery needs to access the field for maintenance, including sewer work by the City of Barre. Using the baseball field entrance is not feasible. It might be possible to relocate the service entrance to the corner by the curbing (off to the side of the proposed new entrance). Funding for the project would come from community donations and the Booster Club (from donations from local businesses). It was noted that the Football Booster Club is a 501 C3 organization. If the project is approved by the Committee, it will require Board Approval prior to any action being taken. It is not known if CVCC students could be involved in the project. Mr. Griggs advised that CVCC involvement would be dependent on timing and whether or not the project falls within defined curriculum. Mrs. Lamb will contact Mr. Cecchinelli prior to the next Committee meeting (if she has additional information that can be provided to the Committee).

8. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

- Electric Bus Update (October)
- Storm Water Run-off Retention Project – Friends of the Winooski (October)
- Bus Survey for SHS Families (December)
- Athletic Entrance at SHS (October Agenda if Kerri Lamb is able to obtain additional information)

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be Monday, October 12, 2020 at 5:30 p.m., via video conference.

10. Adjournment

The Committee agreed by consensus to adjourn at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin