

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

Via Video Conference – Google Meet
October 12, 2020 - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Boltin, Vice Chair - (BC)

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Mr. Cecchinelli, called the Monday, October 12, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 5:34 p.m., which was held via video conference (Google Meet).

2. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

Add 5.2 Ventilation - PCBs

3. Public Comment

None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

The Committee agreed by consensus to approve the Minutes of the September 14, 2020 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

5. New Business

5.1 Storm Water Run-Off Retention Project – Friends of the Winooski

Mr. Evans reported that he has been in contact with Michelle Braun from Friends of the Winooski. Ms. Braun has been in contact with the Department of Environmental Conservation and is waiting for them to provide information. Mr. Evans will check back with Ms. Braun next week. Mailings have been received recently regarding each of the three school properties, and it is believed that action related to storm water run-off projects is ramping up again. There is much permitting and budgeting involved with these projects and Mr. Evans does not anticipate any construction for a year or two. Thus far BTMES is the only school in the district that has been a recipient of grants from the Friends of the Winooski. The grants covered studies and planning. Friends of the Winooski is currently looking for grants to fund construction. Mr. Evans provided a brief overview of the project planned for BTMES, which will involve construction of a storm water retention pond on land to the left of the entry driveway. Mr. Evans has heard discussion relating to storm water run-off from roofs. The project would be much larger if it encompasses roof water in addition to the parking lot water. In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the law does apply to several other properties in Barre Town, including properties in the Industrial Park located across the road from the school.

5.2 Building Ventilation – PCBs

Mr. Isabelle asked if any PCB inquiries have been received since elevated levels of PCBs were found in Burlington High School. Mr. Evans advised that SHS was built in 1964, and BTMES was built in 1967 – 1968. Those buildings were built during the timeframe identified for possible PCB issues. In the past, the BUUSD has done air quality testing for a number of contaminants, including; mold, lead, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, etc.... More research and inquiries will need to be performed to determine if there are materials in those buildings that might contribute to elevated PCB levels. No major construction has occurred in the buildings (that might disturb materials, elevating levels). Construction has been basically limited to removing asbestos floor tiles. Mr. Evans will contact the company that was previously used for air quality testing. It is known that there is no lead paint in SHS and BTMES. This item will be added to a future agenda.

6. Old Business

6.1 Electric Bus Update

Mr. Evans reported that an on-site visit occurred and included various project representatives (STA, GMP...). This site visit was to assist with determining where the poles should be located. There will be 2 charging stations that will be powered from inside the building. An electrician is being hired by the bus manufacturer. The BUUSD has been advised that the buses should arrive in December, but that has not been confirmed. Mr. Evans is waiting to hear back from the busing company (Lion) regarding coordination of inside wiring work. Though the original design involved setting a new power pole, the most recent design allows for powering the charging stations from inside the building and will be metered in some fashion

In response to a query, Mr. Evans advised that the change to the bus charger will not delay installation of a flood light at the driveway exit. Within the next few weeks, GMP will install a pole (with LED lighting) at the driveway exit.

Mr. Evans advised that he has not obtained additional information regarding car chargers.

7. Other Business

Mr. Isabelle is under the impression that it is very likely that the VPA will not allow any indoor winter sports. Mr. Isabelle inquired regarding the possibility of holding hockey outside. Mr. Evans has not received any information regarding any requests to support an outdoor hockey rink. It may be possible to use the North Barre rink. If an outdoor rink needed to be built, it would be a very large undertaking.

In response to a query regarding the retaining wall behind the Central Office, Mr. Evans advised that there are no plans to extend the retaining wall. Additionally, Mr. Evans advised that plowing of the new parking area behind the building works best once the ground is frozen, but if plowed earlier, maintenance crews perform grounds work in the spring to clean up any gravel etc. that was disturbed.

The SHS wood chip heating system has been on for approximately a week and thus far the new underground heating pipes are working well.

Brief discussion was held regarding student transportation and parent drop-off / pick-up. Mr. Evans advised that due to social distancing guidelines, the number of seats on buses is limited. It was noted that bus routes/passengers were probably decided prior to school opening, after parental survey responses were received.

Mrs. Poulin queried regarding keys for substitutes (discussed at the 08/10/20 meeting). Mr. Evans advised that Mrs. Poulin should speak with BTMES administrators. Mrs. Poulin advised that she has spoken with administrators in the past and there is resistance from BTMES. Mrs. Poulin reiterated that availability of keys is a safety issue and is the standard protocol at both SHS and BCEMS. Mrs. Poulin cited various issues including; being locked out of the room during an actual emergency lock-down (e.g. transitioning students in the hall, or subs returning to the classroom after walking students to specials etc...), if leaving rooms unlocked, students enter classrooms and are unsupervised (liability issue), and various scenarios when substitutes are outside with students and have to enter the building, but have to walk students around the building to a door with a buzzer and wait to be buzzed in (student injuries, sick students, student bathroom emergencies, behavioral issues, or an emergency situation that requires students be brought immediately into the building).

Mrs. Poulin advised that she has experienced situations when there are only substitutes outside, thus no one supervising students has a key to enter the building. Mrs. Poulin stressed that this is a safety issue and feels it needs to be addressed. Mr. Evans will inquire about this issue again. This item will be placed on the November agenda.

8. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

- Athletic Entrance at SHS (November)
- Keys for Substitutes at BTMES
- Air Quality (once Mr. Evans has received additional information)
- Bus Survey for SHS Families (December)

9. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, November 9, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

10. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Poulin