

RSD 17 BOE Facilities subcommittee  
Regular meeting  
Central Office boardroom

Dec 7, 2020

Members present: Eileen Blewett, Joanne Nesti and Peter Sonski (chairman)

Members absent: none

Others present: John Mercier, Rob Albert, Donna Hayward and Lynne Flint

Note: Shawna Goldfarb has resigned from this subcommittee

1. Called to order at 7 pm by Peter Sonski
2. The subcommittee recessed at 7:02 pm for members to visit the HKHS fieldhouse and review progress of the renovations being overseen by the RSD17 Public Building Committee. The meeting resumed at 7:32 pm.
3. District facilities condition/status report - members heard from Messrs Mercier and Albert about ongoing maintenance and repair projects across district buildings and properties.

The sewage ejection pump system at the bus garage on the HKHS campus is malfunctioning. Repair is not recommended due to the overall age and condition of the unit. The facilities department has hired a contractor to replace the defective system as an emergency operations project. Committee members concurred with the action.

Among other concerns expressed was the declining condition of the white house and barn that are on the HKHS parcel. The house serves as a base of operations for the HK Youth and Family Services and the HK Recreation Authority. Multiple repairs have been attempted to correct a persistent roof leak. The resulting water is causing an environment in the basement that is conducive to mold development, which has been an issue requiring remediation in the past. In addition, there is a growing number of heating and plumbing repairs due to an aging infrastructure. Discussion followed about the concern for the two agencies occupying the building and their location options in the event of a serious malfunction for which RSD17 is unprepared to address.

**Motion made and seconded (Nesti/Blewett) that to recommend the RSD17 BOE instruct the superintendent to inform leaders of HKYFS and HK Recreation Authority to explore alternate location options with expectation that the BOE is examining long-term use options of the facility and could implement a plan within six months. Approved unanimously.**

Mssrs Mercier and Albert also requested authorization of funds for a structure to store sand as a winter surface treatment for concrete walkways and steps at district facilities.

Haddam and Killingworth both use salt-based surface treatments and have provided it free of charge in the past however the salt is corrosive to concrete and causes expensive repairs. Maintaining its own supply also allows the district more flexibility in scheduling acquisition and application of surface treatments.

**Motion made and seconded (Nesti/Blewett) to recommend the BOE allocate an amount from the capital fund not to exceed \$15,000 to erect the structure to house winter concrete surface treatment and shelter related equipment. Approved unanimously.**

Mssrs Albert and Mercier also reported a coliform contamination of water at HKHS. This has been an issue in the past and is typically remedied quickly. The facilities staff is cooperating with a vendor to locate and eliminate the contamination source. Also, there is concern about the age and condition of electrical switchgear at BES.

4. The capital projects list was reviewed briefly. There is concern that a more thorough and comprehensive analysis needs to be completed to prioritize and schedule capital items.
5. Committee members briefly discussed the need for long-term planning. In light of the preceding agenda items, members agreed the need for an assessment of RSD17 buildings and grounds is a worthy pursuit to begin long-term planning activities. Staff members were asked to explore external options for securing such a report.
6. Adjourned at 8:45p.m.