

Greenwich Board of Education Minutes of the GHS Front Entry Committee Meeting

DATE: January 28, 2021

LOCATION: BOE, Havemeyer Board Room and Virtually via Google Meets

TIME: 8:00 - 8:50 am

Committee Members Present:

Stephen Walko - Chairman

Jake Allen- Vice Chairman

Maureen Bonanno-Secretary

Ashley Cole

Louis Contadino

Stephanie Cowie

Christina Downey (BOE)

Megan Galleta

Michael Mason (BET)

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Craig Amundson (RTM)

Dennis Yeskey (P&Z)

Steven Swidler (BOE Staff)

Others Present:

Ralph Mayo (GHS Principal)

Tom Bobkowski

Sean O'Keefe

Dan Watson

David J. Stein (AIA Principal from Silver/Petrucci + Associates)

Not Present:

Peter Bernstein (BOE) (Ex-Officio)

1.Meeting was called to order by Mr. Walko at 8:05 a.m.

2. Discussion on Town of Greenwich financing:

- An estimate of spending for the 2020-21 requests:
 - Design \$105,000
 - Construction Documents (100%) \$77,000
 - Environmental Assess/Contingency \$68,000
 - Total \$250,000
- Current Request for FY 2021-22 is \$2,750,000
- If passed by the BET and RTM, funds will be available July 1, 2021

3. Discussion on Timing

- Need to select an Architect and General Contractor.
- Project can go out to bid once it passes BET, but not able to sign contract until after the RTM meets in May.
- BOE representative Christina Downey indicated that the BOE has identified this project as a priority, but did not have a specific timeline.
- Since funds will not be available until July 1, 2021, a June/July 2022 start may be more realistic.
- Remediation of the athletic fields may also affect the timing of the Project.
- Chair will get more information regarding timing.

4. Discussion on transition from Feasibility Committee to Building Committee

- Committee is not bound to the architect selected by the Feasibility Committee
- Chair requested a volunteer from the Building Committee to review the RFP with the Officers and town lawyers. If a Building Committee member does not volunteer, one will be assigned.

5. Discussion on Design - David J. Stein, AIA Principal from Silver/Petrucci + Associates presented an overview of the Educational Specs

- The design team visited the school during various times of the school day to review the entry procedures and observe the circulation paths currently in place.
- Design needs to adhere to State of Connecticut Safety Guidelines.
- Design would involve expanding the vestibule to the exterior of the current main entrance lobby, making an “entrapment” area and incorporating the security and accessibility features that are mandated.
- Collaterally affected areas related to the security improvements would include the Resource Officer/Greeter workstation, visibility and electronic communications from the main office and expansion of the current electronic security and surveillance network.
- Goal is to develop a vestibule that still allows freedom for students but does not allow the public to enter. The vestibule will also help define the entrance to GHS.
- The design provides a secure main entrance vestibule that is directly adjacent to the administrative offices and physically separated from any hallways/corridors.
- A security workstation shall be located within the vestibule, providing a clear and unobstructed viewing of the front entry, entry plaza and drop-off area.
- Landscaping would need to be addressed as well as an area for students to assemble.
- Project must be ADA compliant.
- Architects chosen should have experience with electronic entry systems.

6. Discussion on process

- The Educational Specifications should be used as a guidebook, however, if the project deviates from the Ed Specs, BOE approval would be required.

- Purchasing helps with getting the RFP out for the architect. Should take about 2-3 weeks.
- Chair will send out an email to committee members with possible meeting dates.

7. Additional Questions/Comments

- A question was raised regarding soil testing on the project site.
- There was a request for a list of the correct emails and an introduction to committee members.

8. Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Jake Allen and seconded by Christina Downey to approve the minutes of meeting December 9, 2020. The motion was approved.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Walko at 8:50 am.

Submitted by Maureen Bonanno February 2, 2021