

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

DATE: April 23, 2021

LOCATION: Virtual via Google Meets

TIME: 8:00 - 8:46 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:

Dennis Yeskey (P&Z)

Steven Swidler (BOE Staff)

Others Present:

Ralph Mayo (GHS Principal)

Tom Bobkowski (BOE - Central Office)

Dan Watson (BOE- Central Office)

Not Present:

Peter Bernstein (BOE Chair)

Lauren Rabin (Board of Selectman)

Craig Amundson (RTM)

Will Schwartz (DPW)

- Meeting was called to order by Mr. Walko at 8:03 a.m.
- Update on RFP Process:
 - Mr. Walko thanked Committee Members Ashley Cole and Louis Contadino for assisting with the architect walk-throughs.
 - Three architects submitted proposals during the RFP process.
 - Of the three submissions, only one proposal, by Silver Petrucelli, was selected by the BOE Purchasing Agent.

- Two architects did not submit renderings, a condition of the RFP, and were therefore not considered.
- Silver Petrucelli submitted renderings previously submitted during the feasibility study.
- Discussion on RFP Process:
 - Mr. Walko discussed feedback from the BOE Purchasing Agent and committee member Mr. Contadino regarding the onerous requirement of producing renderings for the project which may have precluded more architectural firms from submitting a proposal.
 - Mr. Walko proposed two options to continue the process (a) accept the architect, Silver Petrucelli and move forward or (b) go back out for an RFP and ask for conceptual drawings vs. renderings, which is a less onerous task and may bring more proposals for the committee to review.
- Discussion and vote on proposed options:
 - If option (b) is chosen, new bids could be back by May 13th, the committee would meet May 14th to interview architects
 - Ms. Downey would like to see the cost of architectural services included in the proposals.
 - Ms. Cole would like to see more options presented to ensure that the best design is chosen. Mr. Contadino agreed with Ms. Cole, but pointed out that at this stage, we are choosing the architect, not the design and the architect can be steered to design a structure based on the committee's vision for the project.
 - Ms. Cowie noted that the selected architect, Silver Petrucelli, was already vetted by the Feasibility Committee, however, Mr. Walko noted that the Feasibility Committee is not a complete perspective.
 - If the committee decides on Option (b) Mr. Walko will contact Silver Petrucelli to inform them that the new RFP process is not a reflection on them, rather the process.

Motion was made by Jake Allen and seconded by Christina Downey to reissue the RFP for architectural services with an amendment to the RFP to submit concept design documents in place of renderings. *The Motion Passed 9-0-0*

- Discussion and vote on monthly meeting schedule for 2021
 - Mr. Walko presented a new meeting schedule which would adjourn the May 5th meeting and add May 14th for the review of the architect submissions and May 19th for the architect interviews and selection, as well as moving the December 8th meeting date to December 1st.

Motion was made by Christina Downey and seconded by Jake Allen to amend the monthly Committee meeting schedule for Committee meetings to the following: May 14, May 19, June 2, July 7, August 4, September 8, October 6, November 3, December 1
The Motion Passed 9-0-0

- Approval of Minutes - Motion was made by Mike Mason and seconded by Stephanie Cowie to approve the minutes of the March 2, 2021. The motion was approved.

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

Submitted by Maureen Bonanno April 28, 2021