

BARRE UNIFIED UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
Spaulding High School Library and Via Video Conference – Google Meet
December 12, 2022 - 6:00 p.m.

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Terry Reil, Chair - (BT)
Giuliano Cecchinelli, II, Vice Chair – (BC)
Mary Jane Ainsworth (BT Community Member)
Andrew McMichael (BC Community Member)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Tim Boltin - (BC)
Vacant Position

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonya Spaulding

ADMINISTRATORS PRESENT:

Chris Hennessey, Superintendent
Jamie Evans, Facilities Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

1. Call to Order

The Vice Chair Mr. Reil called the Monday, December 12, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting to order at 6:02 p.m., which was held in the Spaulding High School Library and via video conference.

2. Re-Organize – elect Chair and Vice Chair

Mr. Cecchinelli nominated Mr. Reil for the position of Facilities/Transportation Committee Chair. Ms. Ainsworth seconded the nomination.

There were no additional nominations.

On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to appoint Terry Reil as Chair of the Facilities/Transportation Committee.

Mr. Reil nominated Mr. Cecchinelli for the position of Facilities/Transportation Committee Vice Chair. Ms. Ainsworth seconded the nomination.

There were no additional nominations.

On a motion by Mr. Reil, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to appoint Giuliano Cecchinelli as Vice Chair of the Facilities/Transportation Committee.

3. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda

On a motion by Mr. McMichael, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the agenda as presented.

4. Public Comment

None.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Approval of Minutes – November 14, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the Minutes of the November 14, 2022 BUUSD Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting.

6. New Business

6.1 10-Year Strategic Plan Concept

Mr. Reil advised that the plan was to discuss this concept at each of the committees. The concept is to look at the District as a whole and identify any opportunities for efficiencies. The scope includes all aspects of the District. Mr. Evans noted that he is involved in facilities only, and is not involved in academics, curriculum, etc. Decisions related to other areas may impact facilities, e.g. splitting the two middle/elementary schools into one middle school and one elementary school, creating a single athletic complex, etc. Currently the operation of facilities at each school is fairly consistent. There is currently a Facilities 5-Year Plan which identifies known/planned projects. This initiative is in a conceptual phase and it is believed that the District's other committees have not held much discussion yet. Mr. Reil believes a 10-Year Plan will be beneficial for budgeting purposes, and he believes there are many opportunities for efficiencies and improvements that will benefit all stakeholders. Mr. Cecchinelli noted that BTMES does not have a second layer of security (entrance through the front doors allows access to classroom hallways), and SHS does not have a back-up generator. SHS does have a UPS system for the server. Mr. Evans advised that the security issue at BTMES has been known for some time and that a study needs to be performed to determine the best way to improve security.

7. Old Business

7.1 5-Year Plan Update

A copy of the BUUSD 5-Year Facility Draft Plan (updated 07/18/22) was distributed.

Mr. Evans advised that this is an evolving document, which is updated with known 'big ticket' items and ongoing work (floor replacements, Victallic fittings, door replacement etc.). Victallic fittings are not part of the current HVAC project. Mr. Evans advised that there is not much new to report regarding the 5-Year Plan. Mr. Reil requested that some of the facilities items proposed in the FY24 Budget document be added to the 5-Year Plan.

7.2 EEI Update

Mr. Evans reported that weekly meetings are being held. All contractors are lined up and contracts signed. Background checks and fingerprinting has started. Work is slated to start 01/02/23. Dumpsters will be delivered over winter break and an office will be set up upstairs. Access control is being set up (for outside contractors). The District met with City and State Fire Marshalls last week, and they are pleased with the proposed soft and hard barriers. Fire Marshalls will return to review and sign off on the set up of barriers. A storage trailer will be delivered 12/19/22. Mr. Reil advised regarding Mrs. Farrell's concern for students with asthma or other breathing issues. Mr. Evans advised that given the physical barriers and air circulation control (negative pressure), there should be no threat to students. All areas will be sealed off, tested and signed-off on (by inspectors).

7.3 SHS Asbestos Remediation Update

It is believed that the Board is only concerned regarding the expenses related to pieces that are outside the scope of the HVAC/sprinkler projects. Mr. Evans advised that now that the District is aware of the asbestos issue, he does not believe the District should consider not doing the project. There are many different scenarios (student behavior and maintenance) that could cause disturbance to the asbestos tiles, posing a safety issue. Financing for asbestos tile remediation can be best addressed by the Business Manager. The Committee reviewed the options presented by EEI: 1) Complete all remediation (with the exception of the stage area), 2) Don't perform any remediation at this time (has large impact to lighting project and will cause loss of energy savings and Efficiency Vermont rebate), and 3) Spread remediation over a number of years (impacts HVAC/Sprinkler and Lighting projects). Brief discussion was held. In response to a query from Mr. Reil, Mr. Evans advised that necessary upgrades to wiring (to bring wiring up to code), is already included in the price for the lighting project. The \$450,000 quoted for asbestos remediation does not include any wiring updates. Brief discussion was held regarding financing (\$157,000 proposed for the FY24 budget and \$341,000 from the Capital Improvement Fund). It is anticipated that Mrs. Perreault will address the financing aspect at the Board meeting.

On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the Board choose option one and complete all ceiling tile remediation (with the exception of the stage area) at this time.

7.4 SEA Transportation

Mr. Reil advised regarding his thoughts that SEA transportation be reviewed to find ways to be more efficient. Mr. Hennessey will reach out to Mr. Derner for additional information. It was noted that there are liability issues when staff transport students. Mr. Evans advised that the SEA Program is already outgrowing the parking lot, and that prior to thinking about expanding the building, expansion of the parking lot needs to be considered. Expansion of the parking lot was planned as part of the original design of the SEA building.

8. Other Business

Mr. Evans advised that he and Mrs. Perreault have created formal written procedural documents and those have been added to the District web site. Brief discussion was held regarding the procedure for obtaining contractors for the asbestos project, and Mr. Evans advised that Mrs. Perreault performed the necessary steps and asbestos remediation is included as part of the original project. Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding dark black smoke coming from the woodchip stacks. Mr. Evans advised regarding the woodchip boiler system and advised that the smoke is clean and is most likely due to the 'start-up'. Mr. Evans will look into this matter further. Mr. Cecchinelli queried regarding the 'missing' speedbump at BTMES (a speedbump is only present on one half of the road/driveway), and advised that speedbumps need to be 'lighted'. Mr. Evans advised that the road/driveway is the property of the

Town of Barre, not BTMES. Mr. Evans provided a brief explanation of the property boundaries, and advised that he will contact Barre Town regarding installation of a speedbump.

9. Items to be Placed on Future Agendas

- EEI Update
- Asbestos Update
- SEA Transportation
- 10-Year Strategic Plan Update

10. Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is Monday, January 9, 2023 at 6:00 p.m., at the BUUSD Central Office and via video conference. The SHS Library is not available on 01/09/23 (Winter Art Show).

11. Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Cecchinelli, seconded by Ms. Ainsworth, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrea Poulin