

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

DATE: August 9, 2023

LOCATION: Virtual via Google Meet

TIME: 8:00 am

Committee Members Present:

Stephen Walko - Chairman

Jake Allen - Vice Chairman

Stephanie Cowie

Louis Contadino

Christina Downey (BOE)

Leslie Moriarty (BET)

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Tom Bobkowski (BOE - Central Office)

Craig Amundson (RTM)

Ralph Mayo (GHS Principal)

Steven Swidler (BOE Staff)

Lauren Rabin (Board of Selectmen)

Dan Watson (BOE- Central Office)

Others Present:

Max Wernert (Wernert)

Mike Lampel (Wernert)

David Stein (Silver Petrucelli)

Not Present:

Dennis Yeskey (P&Z)

Maureen Bonanno-Secretary

Ashley Cole

Will Schwartz (DPW)

● Call to Order and Project Update:

- Meeting was called to order by Mr. Walko at 8:05 a.m.
- Mr. Walko asked Wernert to give an update on the timing and schedule.
- Mr. Lampel responded that things are going well, the site fences are up, the portable toilet is on site, the pavers have started coming up, the temporary wall is being erected and the temporary egress doors are being installed.
- Mr. Walko asked about the RFI's, noting there are four outstanding and asked whether the committee needs to be involved and Mr. Stein responded that they have responded to two of them and plan to respond to the other two, one of them today which is just a clarification item

related to the wood on the exterior columns. He added that the one that relates to the school and the building committee has to do with the concrete tables and benches that are located within the plaza. Mr. Stein continued, the original base bid intent was to remove those and part of the alternate was to put in exterior landscape style furniture, which we haven't had the opportunity to purchase yet due to the budget. Mr. Stein noted the question is what to do with them. Mr. Stein added that there is a concrete circular table with a plaque embedded into the top and needed direction from the school as to what to do with that and Mr. Mayo noted that they already took it off.

- Mr. Stein stated they would move those to the side for the district if they want them and if not, they could be disposed of or repurposed, but we never gave direction to Wernert.
- Mr. Walko asked if we needed to use them even if we didn't think we were originally going to use them?
- Ms. Cowie asked Mr. Stein if there was a budget yet on the hardscape items and Mr. Stein responded that it was part of the add alternate amount but doesn't have an itemized number.
- Mr. Stein stated that Wernert prices it out but he will work with the committee to pull out the amount for the pieces the committee prefers and get an itemized pricing list that the PTA could use. Mr. Stein will work with Ms. Cowie on a budget. He noted that the green wall was part of that add alternate, but that amount could be pulled out.
- Mr. Walko asked if they can report on the hardscape items and budget for the next meeting.
- Ms. Moriarty asked if there was a location to store them temporarily and whether it is an issue that needs to be addressed sooner because they're in the way of the construction? Mr. Lambert responded that they need to know where to store them. Mr. Stein suggested that Mr. Mayo and Mr. Watson will reach out to Wernert to determine the best location.
- Mr. Walko asked how many are to be reused and whether they are being discarded, since the plan originally was to discard all of them.
- Mr. Stein responded that if the PTA is able to supplement from what was originally planned as the add alternate, then they could be discarded and there would be no need to reuse them and store them.
- Mr. Stein noted that they will resolve it by the next meeting and have a price if that falls within the budget of the PTA.
- Ms. Cowie stated that there is \$30,000 to start with and if more is needed, we can go back and ask the PTA for more funding and she noted that the town already has the \$30K.
- Ms. Downey noted that there may be a long lead time on ordering and Mr. Stein responded that he believes we have enough time.
- Mr. Walko asked if there was anything else relating to construction or timing and Mr. Lambert and Mr. Stein responded there was not.
- Ms. Downey asked about timing and what work happens prior to start of school and Mr. Lampel responded that they will have the temporary wall completed inside the main entrance, the temporary egress doors will be in operation including the path outside of them and the site fence will be established and will be working within the fence and the demolition will start immediately on the building structure.
- Mr. Watson reminded the committee and Werner that there is no Board of Ed project manager associated with this project and any questions pertaining to the project should go to the Chair.

- **Discussion on Timing:**

- Mr. Walko stated the next meeting should be before school starts, which is next Wednesday and this meeting will be virtual.
- Mr. Stein stated that Bob Washburn from Silver Petrucelli is their construction administrator and he will be on site every other Wednesday especially during active construction.
- Ms. Downey asked about timing on hiring an Owner's Rep and Mr. Walko responded that we discussed testing at the last meeting and we figured out a way to test without an Owner's Rep, but we should discuss an Owner's Rep and he will reach out to Eugene Watts.
- Ms. Downey pointed out that we have to engage someone within the 120 days before the RFP expires.
- Mr. Lampel noted that last week they spoke with Test Con and he believes that they have a contract with the district so they could attach this project to that.
- Mr. Walko stated that we are also down a member and he has been in contact with the First Selectman's office.
- Mr. Walko concluded, we have a few open items for the committee, the hardscape, the owners rep, and the testing.

- **Motion to Approve Meeting Minutes:**

Motion was made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Ms. Moriarty to approve the August 2nd and August 4th meeting minutes. The motion was approved. *The Motion Passed 6-0-0.* Ms. Bonanno and Ms. Cole were absent for the vote.

- **Adjourn:**

- The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Walko at 8:35am

Submitted by Maureen Bonanno on August 15th, 2023