

Minutes:

Hastings-on-Hudson UFSD
Board of Education
Facilities Committee

October 15, 2018

Present at Meeting:

Maureen Caraballo, District Treasurer
Lauren Berman, Board Trustee
Lisa Litvin, Board Trustee
Jodie Meyer, Board Trustee
Veronika Byrnes, H2M Architects
Megan O'Grady, H2M Architects

Present at first half of meeting:

Parent and group of Hastings students led by student, Denim McNeil

Key Topics

1. Community Skate Park proposal presented by parent and kids
Maureen corresponded with the group after their presentation at an earlier Board of Education meeting and invited their return to the Facilities Committee
 - Proposal is to seek property in Hastings for a poured concrete skate park
 - The group is simultaneously reaching out to the town Recreation Department and Town Board of Trustees
 - The need for space is ideally 5,000 square feet
 - Suggested spaces discussed included: lower field at Reynold's Field, Zinnser Park upper parking lot, part of the Burke property, and the basketball courts at Hillside Elementary
 - The group wants to actively be a part of any fundraising necessary for the approximate \$150,000-250,000 cost of construction; The group mentioned grants and foundations (e.g., Tony Hawk Foundation) that could be funding sources, as well as community funds
 - Comments were made about insurance and liability of the skate park
 - Comments were made about the accessibility and visibility of the park's location
1. Bond Discussion
 - H2M prepared a presentation "Pre-Bond Scope of Work – Architectural and Engineering. It included elevation plans, and a proposed plan of work to demonstrate possible suggested plan of including portable classrooms (trailers); it included the current plan of the fourth floor at Farragut and the proposed plan. The presentation was not presented as meeting discussion covered other topics.
 - Maureen explained that FMS/HHS building leaders are spending time to look at the spaces presently under consideration for repurposing, and we should expect them to present at the first November Board of Education meeting.
 - There was a discussion of opinion regarding various line items proposed in various options of the bond. Line items included: sidewalks, parking lot at Hillside, cafeteria and repurposing of space at Hillside; FMS fourth floor space; and classrooms at Hillside.
 - There was new information provided by Maureen and the architects regarding the most recent repurpose of space that was constructed summer 2018. We discussed the space utilization and the building codes in regards to these spaces.
 - H2M provided the committee with a spreadsheet of all proposed work options.
 - We discussed using a community survey to gather input from the community. We discussed the possible need to mail a survey as well as produce an online survey.
 - Maureen presented a chart entitled, "Line Item Spending Comparison" that demonstrated that the Hastings school district is the 5th lowest in Westchester in debt per pupil (\$693). In comparison, Irvington is 2nd highest (\$2742), Ardsley is (\$2270), and Dobbs Ferry is \$1483.
 - Maureen mentioned she is in conversation with local real estate agents and reviewing statistical projections continually to stay on top of student population growth potential
 - There was discussion about SALT deductions

Proposed Next Steps

1. Re: Community Skate Park: Maureen said she could be involved to organize a meeting for the group to include School Facilities, Recreation Department, and Town Board of Trustee representatives to work on possible next steps
2. Re: Community Skate Park: We would consider the possibility of Hillside's basketball courts after discussion regarding that actual use of space (Is it actually used for basketball?)
3. We will anticipate FMS and HHS building leaders to attend the first November Board of Education meeting to present their views on space repurposing and renovation
4. We will expect the Board of Education meeting on October 22nd to be an overview of the three proposed scopes of work
5. Maureen will begin to compose a survey for the community to gather input on opinion

Questions for the Board to Consider

1. Re: Community Skate Park: Would we look into the repurpose of the basketball space at Hillside Elementary for use as a poured concrete skate park?
2. How does the Board of Education envision the survey and do any Board members have input on questions?
3. When does the Board want a recommended scope of work to come from the Facilities Committee?