

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

DATE: December 20, 2024

LOCATION: GHS and Virtual via Zoom

TIME: 8:00 am

Committee Members Present:

Stephen Walko - Chairman

Maureen Bonanno-Secretary

Louis Contadino

Stephanie Cowie

Jake Allen - Vice Chairman

Leslie Moriarty (BET)

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Ralph Mayo

Will Schwartz (DPW)

Steven Swidler (BOE Staff)

Brent Reeves (BOE - Central Office)

Craig Amundson (RTM)

Lauren Rabin

Dan Watson

Others Present:

David Stein(Silver Petrucelli)

Mike Lampel (Wernert)

Bob Washburn (Silver Petrucelli)

Not Present:

Dennis Yeskey (P&Z)

Karen Hirsh (BOE)

Dan Watson (BOE-Central Office)Lauren Rabin

Ashley Cole

- **Call to Order:**

- The meeting was called to order by Mr. Walko at 8:00 a.m.

- **Discussion on Open Items:**

- Mr. Walko stated that the focus of the meeting today is to vote on the change order for the bollard lights.
- Mr. Walko stated that it was determined that the bollard lights are separate from the rest of the building exterior lights so we can make changes to the bollards independent from the other exterior lighting.

- Mr. Walko reviewed the options discussed at the prior meeting; (1) create the ability to dim the bollard lights, (2) put the lights on a timer or (3) do both which would cost \$7,950.
- Mr. Walko stated that Mr. Reeves had requested the ability to have both features for security purposes.
- Mr. Washburn spoke with his electrical engineer who confirmed that the fees quoted are reasonable.
- Ms. Moriarty confirmed that we have slightly over \$100K left and noted that there only are some outstanding CMTL invoices which would come in at just under \$10K.
- Mr. Watson asked how the dimming was controlled and Mr. Lampel responded that there would be a switch installed.
- The committee discussed whether both features are needed given the building lights remain on all night.
- Mr. Contadino noted that given there was a photometric study submitted to the town for approvals, we should be in compliance based on the town requirements and Mr. Washburn noted that it may not be the bollards that are causing the issue for the neighbors. Mr. Contadino suggested that they look at the lights again with a photometric measuring device to determine if they are out of compliance.
- Mr. Walko stated that there would be long term cost savings to have the ability to turn off the lights if the bollard lights are not needed to be on all of the time, and Ms. Cowie agreed and noted that in the past, parents have questioned the need for the lights to be on all night and agreed it would be a good thing to do for the relationship with the neighbors.
- Mr. Watson stated that the building lights will not be turned off, for security reasons and adjustments were made recently to these lights in response to neighbor complaints.
- Ms. Moriarty stated that she supports a change but it is difficult to determine the difference between a timer and a dimmer and Mr. Watson suggested that the committee visit the site at night. Mr. Allen noted that it is difficult to distinguish which lights are causing the issue.
- Ms. Bonanno asked who would be responsible for dimming the lights and Mr. Lampel responded that the switch would be in a closet and likely if they were dimmed, they would likely stay dimmed and therefore you would not need the timer.
- Mr. Lampel noted that the additional lighting helps with the security cameras.
- Mr. Allen stated that having both options would be ideal and if we have the ability to do it and it makes sense to get it done over the holiday and Ms. Cowie agreed with Mr. Allen. Mr. Lampel noted that this work can be done any time.
- Mr. Contadino stated that the overall project, including the lights from the vestibule, has illuminated the area more than it was previously, however, all lighting was in compliance and approved by the town.
- Mr. Walko requested that Facilities revisit the internal lighting of the vestibule to ensure that the timing and brightness of the lighting in the vestibule is appropriate.
- Mr. Lampel noted that the timer and dimmer work can be done incrementally and adding the timer first may be best, given it costs less.
- Ms. Moriarty supports making a change to address the neighbors concerns, however, if spending the funds to make the changes does not result in an improvement, it would be a wrong decision.

- Mr. Walko stated that he will set up a time to meet with Mr. Watson and Mr. Reeves to view the lights at night prior to the January 8th meeting.
- Mr. Mayo stated that from a safety perspective he does not want to turn off the lights.
- **Motions to Approve Invoices and Minutes:**
 - Mr. Walko stated that the CMTL invoice will be approved at the January 8th meeting.
 - Mr. Lampel stated that their controller is working on what is needed to submit to the state. Mr. Lampel stated that the Award Letter is still outstanding. Mr. Watson stated that one of the forms needed to still be reviewed by DPW and will confirm where it is in the process.

Motion was made by Ms. Moriarty and seconded by Mr. Allen to approve the meeting minutes from the December 10th meeting. The motion was approved. *The Motion Passed 6-0-0.*

- **Moving Forward:**
 - Mr. Walko stated that the next committee meeting will be on Wednesday, January 8th
 - Mr. Lampel stated that the millwork for the new desk in the office will be delivered and that work will be completed over the break and the replacement donor bricks will be installed over the break.
 - Mr. Mayo noted that the new trash bins have not been delivered yet. Mr. Walko responded that they were ordered and paid for and he will reach out to Parks and Rec to confirm delivery.
 - The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 am.

Submitted by Maureen Bonanno on January 3, 2025