

GREATER FALL RIVER VOCATIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
HOUSEBUILDING/FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE MINUTES  
251 STONEHAVEN ROAD, FALL RIVER, MA  
DISTRICT OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM  
May 8, 2025

In attendance: Paul Jennings of Westport, Joan Menard of Fall River and Donald DiBiasio of Somerset.

Also in attendance: Jeffrey Begin, School Committee Member, Brian Bentley, Superintendent-Director, Leslie Weckesser, Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Katie Warren, Assistant Principal of Academic Affairs, Gregory Brilhante, Legal Counsel and Helena Neves, Executive Secretary.

Remote Attendance: Maria Torres, Jeffrey Cabral

The meeting began with a roll call at 5:00 p.m.

It was moved by Ms. Menard, seconded by Mr. Jennings and voted unanimously to dispense with the reading of the March 13, 2025 minutes and approve them, as recorded.

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Mrs. Torres for the community projects update. Mr. Torres stated that the work on the community projects is moving right along. Some of the projects will carry over to next year. Mr. DiBiasio stated that the fence posts at the Pottersville Field have been replaced and they would like to proceed with the project in the 25/26 school year.

Mr. DiBiasio stated that he stopped at the 24/25 Housebuilding Program site. The house looks great. Mr. DiBiasio asked Mrs. Torres if a date has been determined for the open house. Mrs. Torres stated that they are looking at dates and will notify everyone once the date is set. There is still some work that needs to be finished but the project is on schedule.

Mr. DiBiasio deferred to Mrs. Torres for the 25/26 Housebuilding Program update. Mrs. Torres stated that a meeting took place with the homeowners to get clarification on some things. There was confusion on the ownership of the land. The homeowners understood that they need to provide the requested information in a short time frame. A deadline date of May 26<sup>th</sup> was given. A contract has not been signed yet. Mr. DiBiasio stated that the whole roof and the stack for the stove will be done by an outside contractor. Mrs. Torres stated that the homeowners are willing to make changes to the plans. The water well has received the approval stamp from the board of health.

Mr. DiBiasio stated that Mr. Cabral needs to have a say on what materials are used on the projects. Mrs. Torres stated that the new contract will have language to address this.

Mr. DiBiasio expressed concern that the Diman is not building the back deck on the 24/25 house and it will not be a good reflection if the deck is not finished for open house. Mrs. Torres stated that the open house booklet includes details on the house and the unfinished deck will be reflected on it.

Mr. DiBiasio informed members that Carlton Medeiros, Durfee's Construction Craft Laborer Teacher expressed interest in partnering with Diman on future Housebuilding Program projects.

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Mr. DiBiasio asked Mr. Cabral if he had any input on either of the projects. Mr. Cabral stated that he is working with Mrs. Torres on revamping the contract language to ensure that changes cannot be made midway through the project. The 25/26 project site plan needs to be redone as it didn't coincide with the house. The homeowners are having some issues reaching the architect. Mr. Bentley stated that both Mrs. Torres and Mr. Cabral have been very much on point in giving the information to the homeowners. Mrs. Torres stated that Mr. Cabral has done an excellent job in assisting the homeowners. He has provided them with an extensive list of everything they need to do and how to go about it.

It was moved by Mr. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Menard, and voted unanimously adjourn the meeting at 5:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted  
*Helena S. Neves*  
Helena S. Neves, Executive Secretary

**Materials Included:**  
March 13, 2025 minutes  
Community Projects List