

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, AUGUST 10, 1006
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: **Committee:** Chairperson Carol DeLuca, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith and Mr. Robert Moldoff
Absent: Mr. Richard Carpenter

Board: Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro

Administration: Mrs. Merle Horowitz and Mr. William Gasior

Press: 1

Audience: 2

Ms. DeLuca opened the meeting at 6:37pm, welcomed all in attendance and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion and seconded by Mr. Moldoff to approve the minutes from the June meeting.

Approval of Present Agenda Items

Mrs. Galbraith made a motion and seconded by Mr. Moldoff to approve the present agenda items.

Old Business

FACILITIES

• **Report on the Status of the Grounds Maintenance Garage**

Mr. Gasior stated that permits are in place. There is some escrow that we are going to have to come up with in order to start construction on Monday. We have the electrician on site and we have a verbal agreement to go ahead and start the building. The completion date has moved later than we wanted because of obtaining the permits and approvals and having the conservation people come out again and look at it. Total construction should be completed by late September.

Mr. Moldoff asked if Dr. Subers is aware of the timeframe and how this may impact.

Mr. Gasior replied no. He will be informed. We will not interfere with school.

Mr. Moldoff asked if it will be possible to develop some type of schedule for when equipment will be coming in and out so as to minimize any impact.

Mr. Gasior replied that the building is offset where it is hardly visible from inside the building.

- **Discussion Regarding Sidewalk at the Lower Fields**

Mr. Gasior stated that a contractor came up with the idea to grade off the hillside. Newtown Township won't allow a walking trail due to ADA. We would grade the hillside and then expand the sidewalk. We would have to make it accessible from the gates. We would be looking at an \$80,000 job.

Mr. Moldoff asked what would be the impact of relocating the field?

Mr. Gasior replied that it would no longer be a regulation baseball field if you turned the field or moved it out more.

Mr. Moldoff asked what if we put the backstop on the other side of the field on the Dunwoody side. Any sidewalk would not be interfering with the backstop.

Mr. Gasior replied that we have to do something to make that sidewalk wider. We could look into that to see if it is feasible.

Dr. Shapiro stated that the reality is that one person fell off of the sidewalk over all of these years that it has been there. It seems like an awful lot of money to spend on one incident considering how long it has been there. Although I am not a member of this committee, I would be in favor of doing nothing at this time.

Mr. Moldoff asked what was the difference between terracing the hill and putting a retaining wall in.

Mr. Gasior replied that it is all dollars. It depends on what kind of material would be needed to make the retaining wall.

Dr. Shapiro stated that the problem is that the minute we touch it, we have to bring it up to code.

Mr. Gasior replied that renovation demands it.

Ms. DeLuca stated that the committee will schedule an on-site visitation to view the area.

- **Motion to Approve the Upgrade of the Phone System**

Mr. Gasior stated that we have two representatives from GST, Betty Gorman and Bill Parsons who will present their proposal of upgrading the phone system.

Mrs. Gorman stated that in the High School we have an ICS 2400 which is about 8-10 years old and an eight port voice messaging system that supports the district. In all other buildings there is an IBS 2000 that is old technology and is about 8 years old. There is no manufacturer's support at any of the remote schools. The High School has manufacturer's support. The voice messaging system is out of manufacturer's support and is dangerously close to a crash. Our plan is to clean up that environment, make it correlate the way that it should and redesign the voice mail so that it will support teachers names verses teachers rooms. There is no disaster recovery plans in place. The maintenance for this system is about \$33,000-\$35,000 a year. We are proposing to upgrade the software that is in the High School to current software release. We will upgrade the voicemail system to 16 ports. The system includes unified messaging with 100 licenses. Through email, you can listen to your email, save it into a file and find the message when needed. We will have a project manager on site to do some data collection and to do design meetings.

Ms. DeLuca made a motion and seconded by Mrs. Galbraith to approve the upgrade of the phone system.

- **Status of the Summer Work List**

Mr. Gasior stated that a lot of the summer work has been taken care of. I am happy with what was done. We have a fresh coat of paint in most parts of this building. We have an office started upstairs for the training room. We are painting at the High School foyer and the hallway. The roofing project will be 95%-100% completed by tomorrow. We are finishing up Russell right now and lap sealing at the High School.

Mr. Moldoff asked if they can make a point to leave the paint when they remove the plastic.

- **Discussion Regarding the Hockey Rink Renovation**

Dan Leefson stated that the Marple Township Commissioners has a proposal for the Board. The township would like to get a 50-year lease on the hockey rink/basketball court area that sits behind Worrall Elementary. They will perform all maintenance.

Mr. Gasior asked if you are going to do the basketball court too.

Mr. Leefson replied not at this time but they might consider it.

Ms. DeLuca stated that a motion will be brought to the Board.

TRANSPORTATION

- **Report Regarding Fuel Tank Contamination**

Mr. Gasior stated that he has alerted the Board that we were having problems with the ethanol in the gas tanks. The problem is resolved.

- **Status of Bus Passes for 2006-2007**

Mr. Gasior stated that the bus passes will be mailed next Wednesday.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. DeLuca adjourned the meeting at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Welsh, Secretary to the Board.