

**MINUTE OF JOINT MEETING OF BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE, BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND BELMONT
HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM
MAY 8, 2018**

Present: Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox, Chair
Ms. Andrea Prestwich, Secretary
Ms. Kate Bowen
Ms. Tara Donner
Ms. Lisa Fiore
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations

Also in attendance: Mr. Adam Dash, Board of Selectmen Chair
Mr. Mark Paolillo, Board of Selectmen
Mr. Tom Caputo, Board of Selectmen
Members of Design Team - Perkins and Will
Members of the Belmont High School Building Committee

1. **WORKING SESSION**

1.1 Call to order

Susan Burgess-Cox called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **OPENING BUSINESS**

None

3. **MAJOR BUSINESS**

3.1 **Belmont High School Building Project Update**

Belmont High School Building Committee Chair Mr. William Lovallo welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of the agenda for the meeting.

Assistant Town Administrator Phyllis Marshall provided an update on the budget for the project explaining the amounts of unencumbered funds and reimbursement amounts so far from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA).

BHSBC member Pat Bruschi explained the process for selection of a construction manager. After six companies submitted applications, three were chosen by the building committee for interviews. Each was interviewed for an hour, provided with materials and asked to address questions. Following that process each submitted information on what they would charge for the project. Based on information collected, the firm that was chosen was Skanska. The next step in the process will be to have the BHSBC vote to engage in contract discussions with Skanska. The committee voted their approval to enter into contract negotiations with Skanska.

Mr. Lovallo provided an update on a letter the committee received from Walk Boston who is interested in working with the committee regarding safe walking routes. Walk Boston is an advocacy group for safe walking in and around Boston and Massachusetts. Mr. Lovallo plans to reach out to them and organize a discussion.

Brooke Trivas, a member of the design team of Perkins and Will explained various updates to the site plan based on conversations with department heads from Belmont as well as many public conversations. She explained routes into and out of the campus and options for routes to the building from the fields. She suggested everyone go online to see the documents and information related to it. She noted it is difficult to change things after the submission of the schematic design but not impossible if important.

Members of the audience addressed the committee regarding concerns around traffic near Goden Street. Neighbors in that area have been working together and with the committee to be sure the site does not create an unsafe situation with traffic. The goal is to be sure children can walk and bike to school with ease. Members of the audience also offered suggestions related to providing an underpass that would allow students from the Winn Brook area of town to be able to cross the railroad tracks safely rather than having to walk all the way around. This may encourage more students to walk to school.

Members of the design team gave a presentation showing the drawings of the inside of the building explaining options for windows and the percentages of glazing. They also provided examples of the different interpretations of brick siding. A member of the committee asked whether the windows would be operational and the answer was yes.

Audience members were invited into the cafeteria to view a virtual reality tour of the proposed building.

4. **FUTURE BUSINESS**

Upcoming Meetings:

May 15, 2018

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 7:30 a.m.

May 22, 2018

School Committee Meeting
CMS Chorus Room – 6:15 p.m. – Student Service Awards
CMS Large Community Room – 7:00 p.m. – Business Meeting

May 29, 2018

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
SAB Conference Room – 7:30 a.m.

June 5, 2018

School Committee Meeting
CMS Cafeteria – 6:15 p.m. – Retiree Reception
CMS Community Room – 6:45 p.m. – Retiree Recognition
CMS Community Room – 7:00 p.m. – Business Meeting

5. **ENCLOSURES**

- Strategic Plan
- Important Dates for School Committee

6. **ADJOURN**

At 9:10 p.m. on a motion offered by Susan Burgess-Cox and seconded by Kate Bowen , it was

VOTED unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Andrea Prestwich
Andrea Prestwich, Secretary