

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES  
JOINT MEETING WITH BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE  
AND BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
WELLINGTON CAFETERIA  
DECEMBER 7, 2017**

SC Members Present: Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox, Secretary  
Ms. Kate Bowen  
Mr. Thomas Caputo  
Ms. Andrea Prestwich

SC Members Absent: Dr. Lisa Fiore, Chair  
Mr. Murat Bicer

BHS-BC Members: Chair Bill Lovallo; M. Patricia Brusch, Gerry Boyle, (Tom Caputo),  
Adam Dash, Joe DeStefano, Phyllis Marshall, Bob McLaughin Chris  
Messer, Diane Miller, Joel Mooney, Dan Richards and Jamie Shea

Board of Selectmen: Chair James Williams & (Adam Dash)

**1. Call to Order**

The SC meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Susan Burgess-Cox.

**2. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

Upon a motion by Ms. Brusch, the Belmont High School Building Committee (BHS-BC) moved unanimously to approve the minutes of November 30, 2017.

**3. Public Meeting Schedule Update**

BHS-BC Chair Bill Lovallo reviewed the PSR Public Meeting Summary. He provided highlights of the main points that will be covered at each upcoming meeting.

**4. Belmont Energy Initiatives (Belmont Energy Committee – Marty Bitner)**

Mr. Marty Bitner, Belmont Energy Committee, began by explaining the mission of the Energy Committee (which serves to implement the Climate Action Plan).

Highlights of his presentation include an explanation of both sustainability and zero net energy (ZNE). In 2014, Belmont received the Green Community designation. This included a commitment to reduce the town's energy consumption by 20% over the next few years, and to reduce energy use by 80% by 2050.

Mr. Bitner discussed the educational benefits of having a ZNE school. ZNE is fiscally responsible, as it will lower operating costs by providing protection from rising energy prices. He did note that upfront costs do exist. He reviewed current energy usage and the associated costs. He highlighted where the energy savings could occur.

**5. Sustainability – defining and building trends (Perkins+Will)**

Ms. Brooke Trivas from Perkins and Will began by stating that Perkins+Will shares Belmont's

commitment to sustainability. Mr. Patrick Cunningham from Perkins and Will explained how sustainability is defined and measured. He explained the LEED and CHP designations, as well as the EUI (Energy Use Intensity) and WUI (Water Use Intensity) concepts. Mr. David Warner from Perkins and Will spoke to various ways to account for energy, e.g., at the site, at the source, cost, emissions. He explained the Responsible Resource Use model energy model.

Ms. Sandra Brock from Perkins and Will discussed site design green infrastructure methods, e.g., rainwater harvesting, green roofs, bio-retention, storm water planters, permeable paving. All of these methods can be integrated and have a function.

Mr. Cunningham discussed material health – the impacts of the materials used in the building on the residents, the environment, and the workers, and how materials are disposed of. He discussed the building's resiliency and the importance of day-lighting, ventilation, rainwater harvesting, building shading, etc. He discussed how decisions will be made (concerning NZE, sustainability) going forward, as well as the relative costs and potential paybacks.

Mr. Warner then reviewed several NZE case studies from various schools including some energy reduction/sustainability initiatives that have been implemented, e.g., solar panels, use of daylight, ways to tie sustainability into the education, use of glass, etc. Ms. Brock discussed a New Jersey case which dealt with water run off issues.

The Committees and Board of Selectmen had a question and answer session with the presenters and opened up questioning to the community.

Some issues discussed included:

- The life cycle and sustainability of the new building;
- Energy Saving Methods;
- The town's cost-saving goals;
- The upfront cost of ZNE as weighed against overall savings;
- Support from Sustainable Belmont; and
- Support of the Climate Action Plan.

BHS-BC Chair Lovallo thanked the Belmont Energy Committee for its presentation noting that the building will be designed with energy efficiency *and* fiscal responsibility in mind.

#### **6. Comments from Belmont Residents**

[Residents spoke after the main discussion; agenda item #5].

#### **7. Next School Building Committee Meeting**

Tuesday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. (Community Engagement #5)

#### **8. Other/New Business**

No new business.

**9. Related Meeting Documents**

1. Perkins + Will agenda
2. BHS-BC PSR Public Meeting Summary
3. BHS Sustainability 1.0
4. Chronology of Belmont's Environmental Responsibility as of 12/7/17

**10. Adjourn**

Upon a motion by Tom Caputo, the School Committee meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Susan Burgess-Cox, Secretary