**Facilities Committee**

**Minutes**

**April 5, 2016**

**Present**: Terry O’Brien (GLS), Colby Lewis (STR Architects), Jan Taniguchi (STR Architects), Don Quinnett (GLS), Bob Bolin (GLS), Debbie Fogel (Board), Sue Kozenski (Board), Ron Lobodzinski (Board), Doug Lim (Gilbane), Susanne Tauke (Community Member), Jeff Gembara (Board), Donna Shupe (GLS), Cyndi Collins (Board), Karen Wilberg (Community Member), Kori Caya (Board), and Stacy Rietschel (Board), Barbara Esterquest (Community Member), Mary Capek (GLS)

**Community Members Present**: Gerard McHugh, Susan McHugh, Jim Esterquest, Rob Hodgdon, Caryl Hodgdon, Sandy Burke, Larry Burke, Penny Peterson, Michael Peterson, John Mandigo, Denise Mandigo, Diane Page, Russ Page, James Gavel, Kathy Gavel, Gary Slazes, John Miroballi, Tom Zawada and Bill Todd

**Absent:** Kori Caya (Board Member)

**Call to Order**

At 6:00p.m., Dr. O’Brien called the meeting to order.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Review Updated Conceptual Designs**

Dr. O’Brien reviewed the previous meeting expectations and provided a review of the evening’s agenda.

Mr. Lewis presented four (4) revised additions for the Facilities Committee to review. The options are as follows: Option A included a 21,000 square foot addition at $8.3M, Option B included an 18,400 square foot addition at $7.2M, Option C included a 16,500 square foot addition at $6.6M, and Option D included a 12,800 square foot addition at $5.5M. All of the options included the addition of an elevator required by civil rights legislation. Option C includes a secure entrance and ADA compliancy. Option D is under the $6M budget but does not include moving any students out of the existing classrooms.

Mrs. Rietschel inquired if any of the proposed options included any new phases. Further discussion took place regarding the various options. The options discussed is only for Phase I.

**Option A** – no students in the lower level

**Option B** – smaller art, music and Junior High elective rooms

**Option C** – learning center remains on the lower level with smaller new classrooms

**Option D** – PreK will remain as is and all typical classrooms will remain in existing environment

**Committee Discussion**

Ms. Tauke along with Mr. Quinnett asked for clarification of costs on the options. Mr. Williams reiterated that all of the options gave a secured entrance, ADA compliancy. Mr. Williams also talked about the variable costs vs. fixed costs. STR Architects shared the approximate cost of $1.5M in fixed. Mr. Williams also inquired about the existing mechanical system and do the options presented focus monies on new stuff. Further discussion took place about the reuse of the existing mechanical system(s).

Ms. Tauke inquired about the lower level of the school and the kind of improvements in Option C. She suggested the possibility of adding windows in the lower level for natural light. Per STR, there are no windows configured in the lower level in Option C.

Ms. Shupe inquired about the huge columns in the lower level and if the columns are currently support beams they cannot be moved.

Mrs. Collins talked about the idea of capturing space regardless of Special Education needs for areas such as, the Teacher’s Lounge and the Occupational Therapist room.

Mrs. Fogel talked about windows and the possibility of opening up the garden windows.

Mr. Lobodzinski inquired about the 1800 square feet allotted for the Administration wing. Discussion took place that the square footage included a conference room for meetings, IEP meetings, etc.

Dr. O’Brien talked about the calendar timeline and Gilbane felt the anticipated move-in date will be next winter break. Discussion took place regarding that time is money in construction. Dr. O’Brien highlighted the purpose of the facilities committee is to make a recommendation to the Board. Dr. O’Brien asked the facilities committee if there is a recommendation as they review the presentation of STR Architects options.

Mr. Lobodzinski expressed that Option D fell in the promised budget; but with Option D the school is not gaining anything.

Mrs. Fogel expressed that Option C is a better use of money.

Mrs. Collins talked about the possibility of any wiggle room for Option C and that this option covers a lot of the checklist items.

Mr. Williams talked about the desire to bring the PreK students into the main building. Options C and D focuses on one building.

Ms. Tauke inquired if there is any leeway in the cost per square foot on the proposed Options.

Gilbane talked how the proposed options show a plan to get to the next level.

Dr. O’Brien requested of the Facilities Committee if there was consensus on a plan of action.

Mr. Williams shared his opinion on Options C & D for Phase I is the most cost effective, but in Phase II the school ends up in the same place.

Further discussion took place regarding the two story scheme versus one story. The one story option would require more concrete and subsequent additional pricing.

Mr. Williams also added that Option C looks the best in terms of cost; but only gives the same size classrooms. Mr. Williams expressed he would consider Option D.

**Mr. Lobodzinski left the Facilities Committee meeting at 6:45 p.m.**

Ms. Tauke expressed she would consider Option C as long as the budget was under $6M.

Further discussion took place regarding Option C and D. The State of Illinois only offer 0% interest loans and no matching grants are currently available. Discussion also took place the need for the project to do prevailing wage being a government entity.

Gilbane suggested that the Facilities Committee needs to look at the return on investment for the project.

Ms. Tauke disagrees with that philosophy and that the committee has a budget and we need to stay responsible within the budget.

Mr. Bolin expressed that he sees a lot more function in the school with Option C.

Gilbane expresses their understanding to spend no more than $6M and that the committee likes Option C.

Dr. O’Brien summarized again to the committee and audience that conceptually the committee likes Option C as long as we stay within the $6M budget. Dr. O’Brien reiterated again that the Board of Education will make the final decision. The Facilities Committee is only responsible for making a recommendation. Dr. O’Brien directed the committee members to express their recommendations. The recommendations were as follows:

***Cyndi Collins – Option C***

***Sue Kozenski – Option C***

***Stacy Rietschel – Option C***

***Debbie Fogel – Option C***

***Susanne Tauke – Option C (spend no more than $6M)***

***Karen Wilberg – Option C***

***Don Quinnett – Option C***

***Bob Bolin – Option C***

***Barb Esterquest – Option C***

***Andy Williams – Option D***

***Jeff Gembara – Option A***

***Ron Lobodzinski – Absent***

Dr. O’Brien summarized that based on the recommendations from the Facilities Committee, it is the consensu of the committee to build a design of Option C with an adjusted price as close to $6,000,000 as possible. Dr. O’Brien also asked for any public input.

**Public Input**

Mr. Mandigo talked about the increase of footprint in the proposed options. Discussion took place regarding the square footage of the options.

Further discussion took place regarding the goals of the construction management (Gilbane) to contract those vendors in Lake County. Additional discussion took place regarding zero impact on additional monies.

Mrs. Mandigo inquired whether the proposed options support the current number of students or are these proposals for potential capacity. Further discussion took place regarding the current student population at Grass Lake School.

Mrs. Esterquest inquired if the Facilities Committee has looked at possibly leasing classroom in St. Peter’s school with their announcement of closing that school. Dr. O’Brien said the Board of Education has not directed him to seek a second campus for student attendance but he will share the idea with the Board and ask for direction.

Ms. Tauke inquired about the current student population at Grass Lake School and how many students are housed at different schools. Dr. O’Brien asked for Mrs. Capek to clarify and at this time there are 9 students housed at different schools.

Dr. O’Brien summarized that the Facilities Committee will go to the Board of Education with the recommendation of moving forward with Option C with a $6M budget.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

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President Secretary