

Greenwich Board of Education
Minutes of the New Lebanon Building Committee Meeting

DATE: Wednesday, September 16, 2015
LOCATION: Havemeyer Board Room
TIME: 8:00-9:00 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

Stephen Walko - Chair
Dean Goss
Patricia Baiardi Kantorski – Clerk
Clare Kilgallen
Peter Bernstein (BOE) – via conference call

Ex-Officio Members Present:

Jake Allen (RTM)
Nick Macri (P&Z Commission)
Barbara O’Neil- Chairman (BOE)

Brian Harris - emailed his comments in
Will Schwartz (DPW) – emailed his comments in

Others Present:

Ronald Matten (BOE Director of Facilities)

Meeting called to order by Mr. Walko 8:00am

1. Discussion of meeting minutes:
 - a. Mr. Walko has not seen minutes posted for committee meetings on August 5, August 12, September 4, September 8.
 - b. Also needs minutes for sub-committee meetings on August 18 and August 28
 - c. Next meeting agenda will include approval of outstanding minutes

2. Discussion of Architect References – sub-committee’s due diligence
 - a. Recap the process: Eugene Watts, Board of Education purchasing department, provided references for 5 schools. Steve Walko assigned one school to each of the four sub-committee members and himself. References included the building committee chairman, school and district administrators and project construction managers.
 - b. The sub-committee members’ written due diligence reports were distributed to all committee & ex-officio members present. Without exception, all references highly recommended Tai Soo Kim Partners Architects and included commendations on the firm’s design, responsiveness, sensitivity to the history and

use of the building. The firm was also commended on being easy to work with. Projects came in on time and within budget. No red flags or even yellow flags raised by any references.

3. Motion by Dean Gross seconded by Patricia Kantorski to ratify the vote of the committee effectively accepting the due diligence and authorizing Mr. Walko to contact Tai Soo Kim to let them know that they are being recommended to the Board of Education at their meeting on September 24. The motion approved 5-0-0.
4. Mr. Walko gave a summary of the key reasons why the firm is being recommended:
 - a. Experience in Connecticut schools
 - b. Expertise in working with the state
 - c. Creativity with an emphasis on learning
 - d. Openness to suggestion, willingness to listen
 - e. Excellent and comprehensive construction documents, drawings and specifications.
 - f. End product of their work greatly appreciated by the towns and users of the buildings
 - g. Their work on magnet schools – their design attracted people in to the schools, “People from all over town now want their children to go here.”
 - h. They have delivered their projects on time and within budget
 - i. Their lack of errors and omissions make up for slightly higher than average fee
5. Handouts distributed to the committee:
 - a. MI from the Board of Selectmen for informational purposes.
 - b. Email from Marvel Architects requesting feedback. Mr. Walko will follow up with the town law department to determine what he can tell them.
 - c. A thank you letter from Perkins Eastmen was distributed.
6. Discussion of sub-committees
 - a. Mr. Walko discussed forming a Time-Line Subcommittee to work with the Architect and Town on the project time line. The members of Time-Line Subcommittee will be Peter Bernstein, Jake Allen and Dean Gross.
 - b. Mr. Walko discussed forming a Communications Subcommittee. The members of the Communications Subcommittee will be Drew Marzullo, Bill Drake, Tony Turner and Barbara O’Neil
7. Mr. Walko will ask Tai Soo Kim for a copy of their PowerPoint presentation.
8. Mr. Walko presented the meeting Schedule for the remainder of 2015. Morning meetings will be interspersed with evening meetings every 3rd meeting. There will be a meeting every Wednesday except Thanksgiving and Christmas week. On September 23rd, a Jewish Holiday, there will be a subcommittee meeting at 7pm.

9. Motion made by Dean Gross seconded by Patricia Kantorski to approve the Meeting Schedule for the remainder of 2015. Approved 5-0-0
10. Mr. Walko announced that he will be at the September 24th Board of Education meeting at Julian Curtiss to present the recommendation of Tai Soo Kim
11. Meeting adjourned at 9am