

Town of Weymouth



School Building Committee Maria Weston Chapman Middle School

MINUTES

November 17, 2016 – 6:30 p.m.

Mary McElroy Meeting Room
McCulloch Building/Whipple Senior Center
182 Green Street, Weymouth, MA

Members Present: Lisa Belmarsh, Paul Comerford, Brian Connolly, Kathy Curran, Jennifer Curtis-Whipple, Paul Duprey, Tom Eldridge, Sean Guilfoyle, Mayor Hedlund, Stephanie Hilbert-Dwyer, Lisa Jennings, Ted Langill, John MacLeod, Matthew Meehan, Michael Smart

The meeting was called to order by Chair Langill at 6:36 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion of Vice Chair Guilfoyle, seconded by Ms. Belmarsh, approval of minutes was tabled.

Discussion of Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) Invitation into the Feasibility Study Phase

- Chairman Langill, School Committee Chair Belmarsh, Superintendent Curtis-Whipple, and Principal Duprey attended the November 9 meeting of the MSBA
- Weymouth has been invited to enter the next stage of the process – the Feasibility Study Phase.

Discussion of Next Steps

1. Completion of the Request for Services (RFS) of an Owner's Project Manager (OPM). Chair Langill and Ms. Belmarsh described the RFS requirements as explained at the MSBA meeting:

- a. A sub-committee may be chosen to screen and interview applicants. Chairman Langill is comfortable with the entire committee fulfilling that role. No objections were voiced.
- b. There are 11 criteria for choosing an OPM. The WSBC must use these criteria but may add more requirements (for example, a check of references).
- c. Chairman Langill will generate a spreadsheet that members will use to rank the OPM candidate using the eleven MSBA criteria, as well as any others the WSBC should add.

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d. Ms. Jennings asked how many candidates typically apply. Chair Langill replied that, according to the MSBA, 5-7 candidates is common.

e. Timeline for Response

i. The WSBC must bring three candidates to MSBA, but may indicate a first choice.

ii. The MSBA meeting schedule is not entirely set, but the WSBC goal will be to present OPM candidates to the MSBA in time for the proposed March 6 meeting of MSBA.

iii. In order for WSBC to make the March 6 goal, the schedule would be as follows:

a. Have an OFS ready for December 29, 2016 deadline to post it on the Massachusetts Central Register. The WSBC will try for a self-imposed deadline of one week before, on December 22.

b. Walk-through of Chapman Middle School January 10, 2017.

c. The WSBC will meet in early January to finalize evaluation criteria.

d. The deadline for OPM RFS responses will be January 18, 2017.

e. WSBC will conduct interviews the week of January 30.

Members commented on the ambitious nature of the deadline, particularly with the possibility that snow could be a factor. Chairman Langill noted that if the deadlines could not be met, it would be possible to present at the April MSBA meeting.

f. MASC/MASS 2016 Conference – OPM feedback

Mrs. Curran reported on what she learned by attending a session on the OPM selection process offered at the 2016 meeting of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees. She highlighted the importance of educating the community about the current state of education in general, and about the need for this project in specific. In particular, she said, in the event of an override, it was important to inform the public about existing tax breaks for people on fixed incomes. She said that the superintendent acts as the glue that connects the community with this process. She relayed advice from the MSBA and member committees about the challenges of building on a campus that is currently in use, as well as the possibility that an auditorium might be covered by the MSBA if a case can be made that it is an educational necessity.

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2. Scheduling of Weymouth School Building Committee Meetings through February

- December 18 – WSBC meeting to review and approve RFS (with public comment)
- December 29, due date for legal notice of RFS
- January 10, 2017 informal meeting and site visit
- January 12 meeting to finalize OPM score sheet
- January 26 meeting to review OPM candidates and select finalists
- January 30 – February 1 Interview OPM finalists and choose a first choice.

3. Scheduling of Public Hearings

After a discussion about best dates and formats, the committee decided on **November 30, 2016 at 7:00PM** at the Chapman Middle School for a first public outreach meeting. The evening would be mostly informational in nature, catching up the public on the need for the project and what has been done so far.

4. Updates to Town Council and/or School Committee

The committee will present an update. Mr Guilfoyle will make a presentation to the School Committee at the regular meeting on December 15, 2016.

5. Community Survey

Superintendent Curtis-Whipple recommended a focused survey. Chairman Langill suggested going deficiency by deficiency from the statement of interest and asking public to prioritize. Mr. Eldridge recommended combining questions of priority with how familiar the respondent was with the issue. A draft for approval will be ready for the December 8 WSBC meeting. Google Docs will be used to create the draft, but the chair mentioned that members should be aware that not too many people from the WSBC may work together outside of the meeting, due to open meeting regulations.

Questions and Public Comment

No one rose to comment or asked questions

Adjournment

On a motion by Mr. Guilfoyle, seconded by Mr. MacLeod, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM