

FAIRFIELD WOODS BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, December 16, 2010

7:00 pm

(Or Immediately Following Parent Meeting starting at 6:30 pm)

Fairfield Woods Middle School Library/Media Center

1115 Fairfield Woods Road

Fairfield, CT 06825

FINAL MINUTES

Members Present: Bill Sapone, Doreen Battimelli, Rich Kornutik, Dan McKnight, Neal Fink

Members Absent: Vic DeMaria, Jennifer Tierney, Kim Marshall, Chad Stewart

Others Present: Sal Morabito, Greg Hatzis, Ralph Martin, Brian McDonald, Tim Yahn, Ken Procino, Andy Tomasko, Randall Luther and Jeanette O'Connell, Phil Ryan, Judy Ewing, Perry Liu, Mark Corcoran and two neighbors

NOTE: Prior to the meeting, Greg Hatzis, Principal, had invited parents to meet with the construction company and the architect. Two representatives from the PTA attended, however, due to a conflict with a previously scheduled concert at FWHS, there was a low turnout.

I. Call to Order

Chairman Bill Sapone called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

II. Approve Minutes

The minutes of December 2, 2010 were reviewed and a motion was made to approve the minutes by Mr. Kornutik, seconded by Mr. Fink. The minutes were approved by a vote of 3 -0-2, with Dan McKnight and Doreen Battimelli abstaining.

III. Review of Zoning Decision

Mr. Sapone reported that both the amendment to the zoning regulations and the special permit were approved by the P&Z, the permit approved with two conditions. The Committee was asked to submit a plan for shielding the new emergency generator to reduce sound, and a plan to address bus parking in the loop and bus stacking for the maximum number of busses that would be staged in the afternoon. Mr. Hatzis said that there is a possibility of double parking the buses in the loop. Mr. Sapone also advised that there is a 15 day period during which an appeal could be taken, but that there is no requirement to wait before starting work and the project will go ahead as planned with the proposed demolition of the science wing over the Christmas break.

IV. Review Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment Design

Randall Luther said that he was looking for a motion from the committee to go forward with the FF&E plans before going to the state. He then introduced Jeanette O'Connell, Director of Interiors from TSKP, who discussed the proposed needs for new furniture.

Ms. O'Connell first discussed the plans for the new computer room and of the nearby storage room in the area of the existing boiler room. She then described the science room layout with mill work, stools, and height adjustable desks.

She presented boards which included pictures of the selected style of furniture, some chosen for purposes of ADA compliance, all of which met with the Board of Education specifications. The pictures included office furniture, chairs, tables, desks, book racks and file boxes. Mr. Hatzis said that a new circulation desk was requested for the Media Center, which would take up less space and that extra area could be used for a lounge area.

Considerable time was spent discussing the cafeteria table selection and layout. The tables selected included attached chairs that could be easily folded up and moved if necessary. The layout as presented would accommodate 320 students plus eight spaces for HC accessibility. The plan called for two types of tables. Large oval tables, shaped to enhance communication, could hold twelve students, with round tables also used which would hold eight each. The plan was always to order some of these in time for use in April 2011 when the cafeteria is taken out of service to begin renovations. The new tables would be placed in the gym and would be easier for the custodians to set up and remove for program purposes.

The furniture discussed represented about \$375,000 of the original total budget of \$550,000. The rest of the budget would be used for AV equipment, window treatments, media and computer needs, and shelving. However, a detailed discussion of the budget and the vote to approve the FF&E package will be taken up at the next FWBC meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Kornutik to approve the immediate purchase of at least enough tables to accommodate about 240 students, so these would be available in April. Mr. McKnight seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Also discussed were additional music stands and instrument racks, a new piano for the keyboard room to replace the one being moved to the auditorium. It was also discussed that the auditorium seating was included in the hard costs, not the FF&E budget.

After the final review by the FWBC at the January 6, 2011 meeting, the FF&E plans will be presented for approval at the Board of Education meeting on January 11, 2011. They hope to go to the BSF the first week in February.

V. Construction Update and Review Emergency Generator Specs.

A construction schedule was distributed which showed plans to start the demolition of the science wing over the school break. Ralph Martin then discussed the bids for the demolition work. The lowest bid was submitted by Seaman Construction Inc. All of their references were checked, and Mr. Martin met with the low bidder to confirm their qualifications. The committee discussed the bids, the scope of work and timing. No abatement will be involved. A motion was made to award the bid to Seaman Construction by Dan McKnight, Rich Kornutik seconded the motion and it was approved 4 - 0 - 1, with Doreen Battimelli abstaining.

Mr. Luther then discussed the proposed emergency generator and distributed some information. The units are delivered in an enclosure and were specified to meet a limit of 72 dB at 23 feet, though quieter units were available at higher cost.

A wall could be installed to provide shielding to further reduce the sound, but it should be understood that this generator would only be activated four times a year unless there was an emergency. Some members thought that this should be explained to the TPZ members, as there was a discussion of the utility asking the school to run the generator, but this unit would not be of that type. It was discussed that this would be explained to the P&Z once a formal plan was determined as to what shielding would be used. A change in location to the back wall of the school from the side was also discussed.

VI. New Business-None

VII. Public Comment

Mark Corcoran asked again about the proposed plans for demolition. The science wing will be knocked down and the area will be cleaned up starting during the school break. In general, the construction bids will likely go out in January, with the footings for the new classroom addition to begin in February. Mr. Martin described the location of the construction trailer and fencing that will go in next week.

Doreen Battimelli requested a copy of the demolition bid.

VIII. Adjourn

Mr. Kornutik made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Fink, and the meeting was formally adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

William Sapone
Chair