

FACILITIES TASK FORCE III

MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 28, 2008

Groton-Dunstable Regional High School – Fish Bowl Room

6:30 p.m.

Present: Voting Members: Bill McDonald, Nancy Bugbee, Maryanne Squeglia, Gary Hoglund, Dave Johnson, Karen Lofgren, Pete Carson
Nonvoting Members: Dr. Alan Genovese, Steve Byrne, Shelley Marcus Cohen

Chair Bill McDonald called the meeting to order at 6:55 p.m.

Discussion began with the individual report done on the High School by Maryanne Squeglia. Ms. Cohen spoke in regard to the room capacity at the High School, stating that having classrooms that are at 85% student capacity is considered excellent. She noted that some of the classrooms, however, are currently above that during the day. She also stated that if budget cuts continue with no overrides passed by the towns, the High School Administration can cut teachers, but they *cannot* put more students in a classroom that will not actually fit. Thirty students in a classroom is considered quite full given the current classroom configuration/size at the High School. Mention was also made regarding the possible future use of the lower level wing for preschool classes, if space necessitated it. Ms. Cohen resolutely stated that this would not be a viable scenario for the High School as there are several science labs down there that are used on an ongoing basis as well as several other rooms that were used by students and staff.

Bill McDonald then presented his report on The Peter Twomey Youth Center. All attendees were in agreement that the information contained in the report was adequate, except for two missing pieces: a) its building capacity; and b) its square footage. It was also suggested that Mr. McDonald change the report's format so that it was consistent with all the other reports' specific formats.

Discussion ensued regarding the consideration of the District's facilities' future capital expenses and implementing them into the FTF's final recommendation report. It was noted that with the School District's bond debt retiring in the year 2015, it may want to consider a bond to replace all of the underground fuel tanks currently in existence at several of the District's schools. On the subject of fuel tanks, Steve Byrne subsequently updated all attendees on what each District school/facility had in place in terms of a heating system.

Since it was felt that more time was needed in formalizing its recommendations and report, a decision was made to reschedule the FTF's currently scheduled date of March 5 to April 2 for its formal presentation of the report to the School Committee. In addition, Bill McDonald and Pete Carson agreed to prepare the executive summary and have it ready for review at the next scheduled meeting. It was also agreed that each of the individual facilities' reports should include, as a short-term recommendation, the installation of a buzzer security system as this is a planned District maintenance project allotted in the budget. It was recommended that perhaps one of the long-term recommendations should be a plan for growth (if population and enrollment begins to increase).

A decision was made to have everyone who did an individual report cull, out of their specific report, information regarding the short- and long-term recommendations, capital improvements and special considerations, specific to each facility. All information should be emailed to Gary

Hoglund within four to five days; he agreed to pull all of the information together into a report. Dave Johnson volunteered to create the power point slide presentation.

The final two scheduled meetings were agreed upon as follows:

Thursday, March 6 - 6:30 p.m. @ Tarbell
Thursday, March 20 - 6:30 p.m. @ Tarbell

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.