



FACILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

September 4, 2014

Chatfield-LoPresti Conference Room

7:00 p.m.

Board Members in Attendance: Saundra Gesek
 Jay Hatfield
 Fred Stanek (7:03 pm)
 Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

Others in Attendance: Rick Belden, Asst. Superintendent, Finance & Operations
 Wayne Natzel, Director of Facilities

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Mr. Hatfield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm

II. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

- A. Nominations for the naming of Chatfield-LoPresti Library Media Center
Mr. Hatfield noted the nominations were included in the package and said that Mr. Stanek was taking the lead on this item. Since Mr. Stanek is not yet here we will go out of order on the agenda and go to item IIB.
- B. Space Humidity Control Report – Seymour Middle School
Mr. Belden and Mr. Natzel did an overview of what the Space Humidity Control report found at the middle school. Mr. Belden said their proposal would solve the problem long term saying we are currently using dehumidifiers in the school which is working. The proposal includes using 13 different dehumidification systems which will eliminate the problem. He said the cost is high because installing these systems would include removing all of the ceilings. Ms. Gesek asked what is wrong with the current system. Mr. Belden explained that there is nothing wrong with the current system just that it is designed to cool the air not to dry it. This was the way it was done when the school was built. Mr. Hatfield asked why it was different at Chatfield-LoPresti School. Mr. Belden explained that the system installed at Chatfield-LoPresti School is a system that is designed to cool and dry air. When asked about the high school, Mr. Natzel explained that the high school has an exhaust system which helps to eliminate outside moist air. Mr. Hatfield asked if the cost indicated in the report includes remediation of the carpet. Mr. Natzel said tests indicated that the carpets were not affected and therefore did not need remediation. Mr. Stanek reminded the committee that we had a significant mold problem about 10 years ago. Mr. Belden explained that at that time, we were attempting to save energy and turned up the thermostat. We have learned that was a mistake. Mr. Belden told the committee that we need to make a decision on whether to go with the short term solution or the long term solution. If we go with the long term solution, we will have to go to the Town since the Board of Education does not have the funding for this project. Mr. Stanek said this is exactly the type of situation where a contingency fund would help. Mr. Hatfield said that based on how long he felt it would take to get approval for funding from the Town, we should buy the humidifiers. Mr. Natzel confirmed that we currently own one dehumidifier and rent four at a cost of approximately \$1000 per month. The cost of a dehumidifier is approximately \$3000 with Mr. Natzel working with the company to secure a discount.

Mr. Belden reminded the committee that we rent the dehumidifiers through the summer months and stop in November. Mr. Stanek asked how they were working in the school and Mr. Natzel gave a thumbs up. He said they are noisy but are not typically run during the day. Mr. Hatfield asked about what service costs there would be after the one year warranty expired. Mr. Natzel said it would be minimal because we service and maintain them ourselves. Mr. Stanek said he felt the Town will not be able to afford the \$700,000 cost with all the road projects that are planned. Mr. Stanek asked if the committee felt we should have a special BOE meeting to discuss this matter. Mr. Natzel said he would contact the company and find out what discounts could be secured and for how long they would be available to us. Ms. Gesek asked if the units could be moved from school to school and Mr. Natzel confirmed they could be moved. Mr. Hatfield and Mr. Stanek agreed that the report should be shared with the full board on October 6 so both options can be discussed and the best solution chosen. Mr. Belden asked if Silver Petrocelli should be invited to the meeting to answer questions and it was decided that they should be there.

A. Nominations for the naming of Chatfield-LoPresti Library Media Center

Mr. Stanek said he feels the committee needs to decide how to make a decision regarding the five nominations that were received. Ms. Gesek said the committee should make a recommendation of who we want to honor to the full board. When the Bungay School library was named in honor of Mr. Coppola, it was done by the building committee. Mr. Stanek said he had hoped to honor someone who represents the "old" Chatfield School. Mr. Hatfield said he hoped we could be sensitive to those who were nominated but not chosen. After reviewing the list of nominations, Ms. Gesek said she felt the committee should recommend the first person on the list. Mr. Hatfield talked about his past experience when he suggested naming a facility in honor of someone and was curious if this committee felt there was support for this person to be named. He said he did not want this to become a spectacle. Mr. Stanek said the members of this committee can talk to the other members of the Board to gauge their support before going into the public record. Mr. Hatfield said he is fine with the first person on the list being chosen. It was decided that Mr. Hatfield would talk to Allison Sobieski-McAndrew and Theodora Klarides, Ms. Gesek will talk to Ed Strumello and Yashu Putorti, and Mr. Stanek will talk to Jen Magri and Kristen Harmeling. They would report back to Mr. Hatfield after their talks. Mr. Belden asked the committee if they wanted to consider inviting the person who was chosen to the Board meeting and it was decided not to invite them but to have someone on the Board or the Superintendent notify the person after the meeting.

III. REPORTS

A. Chairman's Report

Mr. Hatfield said he had no report this evening but asked if there were any issues coming up and indicated that he felt in the winter, we should look at naming other areas of the school system. Mr. Belden said there were no issues upcoming. He said the Fire Marshall had issued his inspection and we were in good shape and any remedies would be reported to the full board. Mr. Belden also mentioned that the consortium for electricity costs ends in November and the new consortium will be brought to the full board. Mr. Belden reported that Falcioni Painting Company had donated the paint and labor to spruce up the scoreboard and paint the Snack Shack. Mr. Hatfield asked that a letter be sent to them thanking them for this work. Mr. Hatfield complimented the custodial staff on all the work they have accomplished this summer and asked Mr. Natzel if he thought it would be a good idea for the Board to send them a letter acknowledging this. Mr. Natzel thought it was an excellent idea. Mr. Hatfield said he would draft a letter to be sent to the custodial staff.

B. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Belden and Mr. Natzel presented the Summer Project Work report to the Committee. He talked about bringing in a lighting company to replace the lamps on the football field. Three of the lights are out and will remain out because they could not be fixed. 47 of the 50 lights are lit and should remain so for several years since the life of a lamp is approximately 10 years. Ms. Gesek asked when the roof of the high school will need to be replaced and Mr. Belden confirmed that it is nearing the end of its life span but as of now we are having no problems. Mr. Hatfield asked about changing from propane to natural gas and if this was part of a district initiative. Mr. Belden said natural gas is cheaper and more available and that is why they are changing over. Mr. Belden talked about the bleacher project and how it will need to be OCR compliant which is a large cost. He made the recommendation that an Athletic Facility Committee be formed to address all projects and facilities, not just the turf field. Mr. Hatfield asked about the \$10,000 cost to move the Special Education offices and why moving them was necessary. Mr. Belden said he felt they were moved because the preschool is located in Chatfield-LoPresti School and they service a large number of students from the preschool program. He said Mrs. Syriac may be able to expand on further reasons why they were moved. Mr. Hatfield asked about the paint and carpet for Central Office. Mr. Belden explained that it has been several years since the carpet was installed and it has become wrinkled and torn which is a safety hazard. He explained that the lobby, bathrooms, kitchen, business office and the Superintendent's secretary's office will be painted. He also described the redesign of the lobby and the installation of a barrier to discourage visitors from just walking into offices. Mr. Hatfield asked if the space that was previously used by Special Education in the middle school could be used by Central Office. Mr. Belden explained that Mr. Natzel had moved into the space and an intern had been placed in his old office. Mr. Hatfield asked if the town does paving. Mr. Natzel said they do not but when they are planning a paving project, the Board of Education "piggy backs" to keep the costs down. Mr. Hatfield said he saw the paw prints at Seymour Middle School and really likes them. He asked Mr. Natzel to pass along his compliments to the person who painted them and maybe encourage them to do more. He then commented that the paw prints at the high school are holding up nicely. Mr. Hatfield asked Mr. Natzel about the repair of the broken ice machine and Mr. Natzel confirmed that his vendor knows about it but keeps putting the repair of it off. Mr. Natzel is not too worried about it since the high school has other ice machines available to them. Mr. Hatfield said he only brought it up because he has had complaints. Mr. Natzel said the sound system at the high school will be fixed tomorrow.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Ms. Gesek/sec., Mr. Stanek) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Gesek, Mr. Hatfield, Mr. Stanek

The meeting adjourned at 8:51 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk