

Worcester Central School District
Building Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, January 20, 2005

Mr. Sweeney opened by passing out an agenda for this meeting.
Mr. Sweeney also welcomed Mr. Selover, who is now the Superintendent for the District.

Minutes of previous meeting were handed out. Upon review no changes were made.

There was some discussion on structural problem in the gym.
Mr. Selover advised that the engineering report from Mr. Palucci was sent to State Ed. Dept. We then in turn received a call from State Ed. whereas they told us we could not use the gym until this problem was repaired. Mr. Selover also heard tonight that we will be receiving notice that we can not use the three classrooms over the portico which currently houses one kindergarten, one fourth grade and one sixth grade. The Daily Star was here today also. We have made arrangements for P.E. classes and will now work on placing those elementary classrooms. Question on if the state comes to inspect this? No, they go by engineer's report. We do have another engineering company coming tomorrow for a second opinion. Mr. Taylor stated that this is something that has been observed so they have been working on a plan for correction already. If this is declared an emergency the corrections can be made without voter approval and can be started as soon as possible. We also receive state aid sooner.

Question: What precipitated this happening now?

Mr. Taylor contacted State Ed. re: this being an emergency procedure, per BOE request. When State Ed. reviewed the report they thought it was a dangerous situation, therefore the notice of closure.

Question: If this is an emergency fix can we go into the building project as a result of this?

No, we can fix the situation but nothing else. Could be a temporary fix or permanent fix but can only address that issue.

There was discussion on possible ways to fix and P.E. and classroom options.

Mr. Sweeney gave several hand-outs:

- revised bus garage plan
- aerial color view of proposed plan
- detailed cost for construction groupings

There was discussion on the revised bus garage plan. With paring it own an having buses under canopy instead of inside how does this change cost. Mr. Taylor stated that including contingency expenses it cuts about \$750,000. He stated that Mr. Donegan felt it shouldn't impact the site work. General discussion asked if two work bays were enough. Mr. Hunt (bus mechanic) felt it was sufficient. The two wash bays could also be used if needed. Discussion on whether there would be storage, as we have now, for such things as lawnmower, etc. Do we want the buses outside or under canopy? A closed building for busses would be preferred by drivers. Possibly instead a basic metal building with heat could be considered. Mr. Taylor advised that maybe an alternate plan would be possible, if there was money that could be saved leaving some additional funds this could be used to upgrade the garage. We could ask bidders on project to bid on main plan and on the alternate plan. This opened discussion again on other options such as purchasing property next door, lease off site property for garage and shared transportation. General consensus was that these were options we were not going with. The architects have presented a plan with the driveway loop around the back of the building and that is what is here in aerial view.

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Vote by show of hands – Should we explore further, the purchase of property next to school?

Yes - 2

No - 17

On further discussion of garage:

Some things were discussed that people felt should be placed back into the garage. It is significant to put the outside public bathrooms back into the plan. We also need to put back in as much storage as we have currently. The concession stand should be put back into the plan. The training room, one office and meeting room would be cut, along with covered bays for all busses. Alternate plan would be to cover the busses.

Public perception is important. Many people see Schenevus garage as too much. We can't let this impact us. Mr. Perrillo stated that we don't want to "sell" the project to the public but we want to "educate" the public. Then they can decide on their own how to vote. Mrs. Horne stated that we have to show money impact to the average person to be able to have full consideration. Discussion of need for inside bays for busses. We need to consider what is best for us and then work to educate people for these needs.

Vote by show of hands - Should we leave as 1st plan with inside bus storage but eliminate training room, extra office, meeting room and leave it 2 work bays and 1 wash bay?

Yes - 16

No - 3 (Leave bus storage open)

For traffic flow – general consensus was to stay with the loop.

For site development – question of tennis court and track? Mr. Taylor advised that when you loop the driveway the tennis courts will not fit. Track will not fit in plan on property.

Classroom space – We have justified the space. Several areas are larger. Extra classrooms would be nice but not justified. Mrs. Shalor stated that this is issue that still bothers her. She feels we should have extra classrooms for growth or change.

General discussion on plan:

Old cafeteria will now become storage.

Media Center/Computer Room would be used for that but could also be used more in instructional capacity.

Entry/ Administrative Offices switched to by locker room area and current office switched to classrooms. This is good configuration for elementary.

There are several options for placing network room.

Renovation of auditorium – Are there safety issues? No. The changes here would be for lighting, sound, windows, curtains and the aid would be the same rate as for project.

The next Advisory Committee Meeting will be February 3, 2005 but at 7:30 pm. There is a bus vote meeting at school at 7:00 pm that evening.

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Public Concerns:

Mr. Basso stated that he has listened tonight and has received an education. One thing on everyone's mind is the tax impact. If the community is responsible for a \$20 million project this means \$500 to \$700 impact yearly on taxes. We talked about closed garage and radiant heat but didn't address how this impacts annual operating expenses also.

Areas we need to discuss at next meeting?

How do we educate people? Many people will hear \$20 mil and just close their ears.

We need to get finalized figures to figure tax impacts.

Mr. Nagle suggested we might want to consider breaking up into small groups to look at particular issues to be able to present to the public.

Mr. Sweeney advised that since you are on building advisory committee you may be approached for information on the structural problem. Mr. Selover stated that we will be sending a newsletter home and there will be a public meeting tomorrow night at 5:00 pm regarding this.

Mr. Selover stated that we will also be closing school tomorrow. We need to work out all the details and make sure our plan is correct.

Meeting closed.