

MINUTES
**TOWN OF DARIEN BOARD OF EDUCATION CENTRAL OFFICE/
MATHER CENTER BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Tuesday, April 10, 2012

The regular meeting of the Town of Darien Board of Education Central Office/Mather Center Building Committee was held on April 10, 2012. Present were David Campbell, Louis Gesauldi, John Hertz and Elizabeth Hagerty-Ross. Also present were Architect Tom Arcari, Nick Everett – A.P. Construction, Mike Lynch Board of Education Facilities Director and Town Administrator Karl Kilduff. Vice Chairman Robin Woods was absent.

The meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

a) Selection of a Chairman

Ms. Hagerty-Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Hertz, that Mr. Campbell serve as Chairman for the Building Committee. The motion passed 2-0 with Mr. Campbell abstaining.

Mr. Gesauldi joined the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

b) Project Update on Board of Education Central Office Phase

Mr. Arcari provided a report for Mr. Malik. He reported that drawings are progressing for a May bid date. The budget is still being reviewed with AP Construction.

Mr. Arcari noted that the architects are discussing the Planning & Zoning process with Jeremy Ginsberg and reviewing questions posed by the Planning & Zoning Commission. In addressing some of the questions, the Board of Education will prepare a letter explaining the current snow removal operations and how they will be performed at 35 Leroy. Improving site lines were discussed which could entail removal of one tree and/or moving a utility pole. A program and usage narrative for 35 Leroy is being refined. Documentation regarding Whole Foods and the Red Cross's commitment for access will be provided. The traffic engineer would be in attendance at the next meeting to answer traffic questions. A request was made to look at improving the quality of storm water run-off which could impact the budget by adding \$25,000-30,000.

Discussions with the State regarding reimbursement have started. Mr. Arcari stated that the project could qualify for "renovate-as-new" status which would require more funds to address certain building systems, but would also provide additional funding. It is believed that the increased funding would cover the added construction costs.

c) Project Update on Mather Center Phase

Mr. Arcari reported that the project would be going to the Planning & Zoning Commission soon and public notifications would be going out this week. He added that drawings are proceeding, but the length of the land use approval process may impact the target bid date.

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Approval from the Environmental Protection Commission was granted subject to conditions which included adding tree protection wells, adding two more trees to the planting plan and cleaning the edge of the water course.

It was reported that the cost estimate for this phase of the project is stilling being reviewed between the architects and AP Construction. Mr. Arcari stated that there was a sizeable gap between the budget and the new round of pricing. He is waiting for a second round to pick up changes in scope discussed. Initial pricing was over by \$750,000, however \$250,000 was easily attributable to the generator and could be taken out of the base pricing. The architect and construction manager are working together to close the gap.

d) Other Items of Relevance to the Committee

Mr. Kilduff reported that new pricing was provided by Yankee Gas for the connection to 35 Leroy. Yankee Gas pricing is only good for 6 months if not under a contract. The pricing increased \$1,671 from \$128,032 to \$129,703. The new price would be good until the end of September. He added that the Committee will need to determine how it will fund this expense.

Mr. Gesauldi asked Mr. Arcari about how quickly an answer was needed regarding the decision to pursue “renovate-as-new” status. Mr. Arcari was looking for a decision by the next Committee meeting. Tom Walsh distributed an updated project budget for the Committee members.

Mr. Everett emphasized the importance of having bid documents ready in June to meet the schedule.

Ms. Hagerty-Ross reported that the Board of Education would be discussing the reimbursement grant at its next meeting.

Mr. Arcari reported on discussions with the Health Department. There were no issues with the location of the Health Screening Room and comments were given regarding the potential layout of the kitchen. The Committee took no exception to the relocation of the Health Screening Room to the first floor to provide an office for Aging-in-Place.

Ms. Hagerty-Ross moved, seconded by Mr. Gesauldi, to approve the minutes of March 27, 2012. The motion passed 3-0 with Mr. Campbell abstaining.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Karl F. Kilduff
Administrative Officer