

Regional School District 13
Board of Education
Educational Resources Committee – revised minutes
December 29, 2016 at 4:00 p.m.
CRHS Classroom 108

Committee members present: Bob Moore, Jeremy Renninghoff, Nancy Boyle, Andrew Taylor
Members absent: Bob Yamartino
Administration present: Kathy Veronesi

1. Public Comment: Included in Field House discussion below.
2. Approval of agenda: The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Renninghoff and seconded by Mrs. Boyle.
3. Approval of minutes: The December 7, 2016 minutes were approved on a motion by Mr. Renninghoff and seconded by Mrs. Boyle.
4. Field House Discussion:

Karen Cheney noted that promises that were made were not honored. She also stated that she is not “anti-athletic”. The junior football team did not honor commitment to not use speakers. Ms. Cheney noted that she brought up another point of view, and wants to help before the project gets going. There are a lot of people who feel like they were sold a bill of goods. Ms. Cheney indicated that she does not think that the trash is too bad, but wishes the Benchwarmers would do a once-a-year trash pick-up. Ms. Cheney indicated that she had spoken to the Superintendent at the time (Mrs. Viccaro) and felt that the ideas and feelings that she brought forth were never taken into consideration.

Michelle DiMauro-Murphy thanked Ms. Cheney for bringing this information forward to the meeting today and indicated personal experience of growing up next to a lighted athletic field and shared her experience with knowing what the pros and cons are.

Ms. Cheney noted that the athletic field means that many other groups will want to use the facility and then she will not be able to enjoy her time in her own yard. The lights and the announcements will impact her living.

Mr. Moore thanked the public for their comments.

Mr. Moore indicated that the discussion that was brought to the Board of Education meeting was referred to the ERC. Mr. Moore reviewed the plans that were shared from United Concrete. Mr. Moore asked Business Manager Ron Melnik to look at various financing scenarios including 3, 5, 10 and 20 years. In evaluating a bid spec, Mr. Melnik looked at possible scenarios using \$1,000,000 as a placeholder with the possible consideration of lights at the tennis courts, lights on the field, and the field house structure.

Mrs. Boyle indicated that in the past few years she has had the opportunity to learn a lot about LED lights and the benefit of having them in a stadium in terms of significantly reducing the glare.

Mr. Moore suggested creating various options.

Mr. Boyle asked if there are alternatives given the existing foundation. Randall Luther indicated that the existing foundation locks us into the layout. We can do toilets and forget the rest of the ideas. There is a

small opportunity to reduce the fixture count; had been operating under the assumption of a 1,000 person occupancy in the bleachers, but the seating is potentially closer to 800. One of the considerations at the time was the prevailing wage issue.

Mr. Renninghoff indicated that he received a phone call from a resident due to the state of affairs at the state level. There are many competing interests for limited funds. Several years ago a smaller committee for which Mr. Renninghoff was a part included bathrooms only with private fund-raising used for lights. He wondered where the idea for the district paying for lights came from. It was previously indicated that people were lined up to fund raise for lights. Taxpayers should only have to pay for bathrooms.

Dr. Taylor would like to be sure that we direct district monies to the areas that most impact student achievement.

Mrs. Boyle suggested putting forth an RFP. Mr. Moore agreed. May need assistance from an architect or engineer to write specs. Mrs. Boyle asked Dr. Veronesi what her thoughts were on this.

Dr. Veronesi indicated that she thought that the projected should be completed in a responsible manner and that although there is not a direct impact to student achievement by building the field house, there are many variables that must be addressed in running a high quality school district.

Mrs. Boyle asked if the committee felt that the spec should only include the bathrooms.

Mr. Renninghoff asked Mr. Faiella about the proposal from UniCon. We can't put a precast concrete structure on some areas due to the foundation and risk of cracking the slab, because the slab is not built for a pre-fab structure. Discussion followed regarding the footing.

Carl Stroup commented that frost will work the walls unless there is protection.

Mr. Faiella indicated that United Concrete came out to look at the structure. They said it is possible to place their structure on the slab as-is.

Mrs. Boyle suggested building the entire perimeter of the building and fitting-out the bathrooms.

Mrs. Zettergren indicated \$360,000 to drop in building (UniCon).

Mr. Renninghoff indicated that it is essential that we consider that there are costs associated with plumbing and electrical work that need to be done even with a pre-fab structure.

Mr. Luther indicated that the location of the electrical service would entail additional work/wiring to get the electrical where it needs to be.

Mr. Moore indicated that we will need to get some assistance in creating a spec. He reviewed the debt schedule and indicated that there is room for additional debt.

Mrs. Boyle made a motion to move forward with two RFPs: one for a full facility with a bathroom fitted-out and one with just bathroom units. The motion was seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved unanimously.

5. Public Comment:

Mr. Stroup encouraged the committee to stick with the building and leave the lights out.

Mrs. Zettergren thanked the committee. She appreciated the challenges of balancing the various priorities. Mr. Luther indicated that there will be maintenance and budget impact if we neglect the slab.

If the project is done, it is critical that it is done right.

Mr. Grenier said thank you, and our kids get credit for sports.

6. Adjournment: On a motion made by Mr. Renninghoff and seconded by Mrs. Boyle, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.