

August 8, 2016 -----PE/Athletics Subcommittee

Attendance: David Johnson, Jr., David Johnson, Sr., David Hammond, Geoff Godo, Blair Kopp, John Hodge, Chris Shaw, Lyndon Keck, Brad Smith, Seth Berry

I. Public Comment: Seth Berry

- Mr. Berry shared his thoughts and some concerns regarding the status of the project
- He thanked the committee for its work but wondered about lack of awareness throughout communities
- His interest in the meeting related to the configurations of the athletic field setup in the current building plan
- Chairman Johnson, Jr. discussed the committee's order of action-from the formation of the committee to site analysis to how the athletic fields would be laid out as part of the design
- Mr. Johnson, Sr. explained the importance of the design of the athletic fields for the overall site and building design and how decisions on layout were needed to help determine the best location for the school building
- He also explained the decisions associated with removing the current field house - tremendous economic restraints, structural limitations, "eye sore", 3 E's
- Mr. Hodge discussed the other reasons behind the removal of the field house - constraints to detached building for PE, building of a new, first-class facility able to host championships
- Mr. Smith shared the options of new build vs. rent and the overwhelming priority of the community members and committees to not displace kids during construction
- Mr. Keck discussed the new vs. renovation analysis and reviewed with the four towns of the district for input and feedback
- Mr. Keck also showed on the schematic drawings the physical limitations brought forth by the space - there were limits to WHAT could WHERE
- Mr. Berry asked about the option of filling and replacing vernal pools - Mr. Keck pointed out that this was not an option discussed, primarily due to the cost involved
- Mr. Berry asked about the option of selling the old fieldhouse to the town of Topsham
- Mr. Hammond & Mr. Keck explained the financial and structural problems associated with the old fieldhouse and the decision to remove it
- Mr. Berry wondered about the potential of utilizing / acquiring land on Liberty Circle and what could be done with that - Mr. Smith explained that the district did not see the need for the purchase of more land because we have enough to fit the new facilities within the current footprint, which was unanimously approved in the Straw Vote
- Mr. Berry asked if there were any discussions about moving the current bus garage - no (cost)
- Mr. Berry was curious about the status of the water table around or near the current building site - Mr. Keck explained that the location was a great place to build
- Mr. Berry also inquired about the potential of placing the track and competition field adjacent to the bus garage along Eagles Way - very cramped space with little room for expansion
- Mr. Berry thanked the committee for the time to speak and still had some questions about logistics and specific plans for displaced athletes before deciding upon support for the project

II. Update from Mr. Keck on the Public Forum

- Encouraged by the overall turnout
- Priorities: Review specific details on internal facilities of the proposed building design; Identify & create specific plans for displaced athletes (where/when)
- Representation from committee at Building Committee meetings is vital - Time to make decisions on what will be included in local share / fundraising

- Review results of public forum for next meeting - evaluate priorities and determine emphasis on local share / fundraising
- Look at building plans and review athletic facilities
- Schedule site review of softball facility with PDT as soon as possible

Next Meeting - August 30, 2016 @ 5pm, District Office