School Board Committee: Capital Facilities

Date: January 6, 2010

Committee Members Present: Jack Dunn, Chair, Eric Williams, Clint Cogswell, Kevin Fleming

Other Board Member(s) Present: Jennifer Patterson

Administration: Chris Rath, Rob Prohl, Matt Cashman

1. Relocation of SAU Offices: Options
The committee discussed where administration should relocate the central office. The plan and current state aid application is for Dewey to house Central Office. The committee discussed the long-term viability of using Dewey due to fit-up costs, parking, and code compliance. Rumford (39,000 square feet) was suggested, with a portion of it designated as timesharing offices for businesses as an idea. The committee also discussed the suggestion made a few months ago of temporarily leasing space in the city. The administration brought forward a sample lease space of 9640 square feet that might fit the district’s needs for the next few years. A conceptual plan was presented and it was suggested that the Capital Facilities committee tour the space. Mr. Cashman will arrange for a tour of the site in the near future. The administration was asked to provide for the next meeting an estimated budget impact of moving to Dewey vs. leasing space.

2. Task Force III
Mr. Dunn reminded the public that since the consolidation plan’s conception, there has been a plan to have a third task force to address options regarding the buildings that would become vacant with the consolidation. The committee discussed a variety of ideas on the information that would be needed and how to develop Task Force III.

3. Building Committee:
Mr. Dunn discussed the highlights of the last steering committee meeting. He then proposed changing the name of the steering committee consisting of 17 members to Building Committee, comprised of 11 members. The new building committee would include Jack Dunn, Eric Williams, Clint Cogswell, Kevin Fleming, Chris Rath, Rob Prohl, Matt Cashman, Deb McNeish, Susan Noyes, Ed Barnwell and Matt Walsh. Separate workgroups may function during the design development stage and will include those who specialize in a particular subject. All groups will meet on designated Wednesdays.

The Committee voted 4–0 to recommend to the full Board the change of committee name and composition (motioned by Dr. Fleming, seconded by Mr. Cogswell).
The committee discussed NECHPS’s requirement to create a “Green Committee” in order to receive the additional 3% state aid for environmentally sound construction and to participate in the CHPS certification program. Suggestions were made to include the city’s energy committee and the high school recycling committee. The committee decided to put this item on the agenda for discussion at the meeting on January 20.

4. Houses on Kimball Block
Mr. Dunn proposed the possibility of selling the houses on the Kimball block, specifically the structures. He suggested that, since there was some sentiment expressed in the public hearings and Board meetings that the houses themselves have value, there might be some interest in the community to make an offer for the homes and move them. The administration was asked as to check with counsel whether the district would encounter any legal issues entering into such agreements. No further action was taken.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jack Dunn, Chair
Matt Cashman, Recorder