Concord School District  
Capital Facilities Committee  
November 17, 2014

**School Board Committee:** Capital Facilities

**Date:** November 17, 2014

**Committee members present:** Oliver Spencer, *Chair*, Kass Ardinger, Tom Croteau, Patrick Taylor

**Other School Board member/s present:** Jennifer Patterson

**Administration:** Matt Cashman, Jack Dunn

The agenda was to hear a proposal from Girls Inc. to lease space at Eastman School.

Oliver Spencer opened the meeting and introduced Cathy Duffy, CEO of Girls Inc. of New Hampshire, and Karen Billings, Regional Director. Ms. Duffy explained that Girls Inc. offers afterschool programs, summer programs and other events to girls ages 5 through 18 years. Three of its core areas of programs and activities are focused on academic achievement, healthy living, academic enrichment and support, and life skills. For example, they offer an automotive program called “Girls under the Hood.” One of the Eastman School neighborhood residents asked Ms. Duffy to explain the program. Residents expressed approval of the learning programs offered by Girls Inc.

Girls Inc. has been located at 38 Green Street in Concord for 12 years. They are interested in leasing at Eastman school because they currently have limited space that must be shared with other groups. Ms. Duffy hopes to use four classrooms at Eastman School. Their operating hours would be Monday through Friday, from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m.

Some Girls Inc. parents expressed that Eastman School would be much safer and quieter than the present Green Street location. The rooms are larger, and they would have an outdoor area so that girls would be able to play outside, which they cannot do at the Green Street location. The five students from Girls Inc. who attended the meeting spoke to the Committee and Eastman School residents about how excited they are to have more room, a large outdoor space and a private room for the older girls.

Some concerns were expressed about buses and other vehicles going in the direction of the 4-way intersection toward Mountain Road. Several residents wanted the vehicles going out another way to avoid this very dangerous intersection. A suggestion was made to have signs put up to direct the vehicles on an alternate way to enter and exit Eastman School away from that intersection. Concord School District administration will work with Girls Inc. to establish a safe traffic pattern.

Ms. Duffy and Ms. Billings told the Committee and residents that they would take care of the daily maintenance of the building and grounds, and Concord School District
would plow the Eastman School parking areas and take care of major maintenance on the building.

It was noted that the Concord group currently has approximately 40 girls in its program, but if they move to Eastman School it could increase that number to 75 or more girls. All Committee members and residents in attendance supported the proposal.

Ms. Duffy and Ms. Billings had met with the City at the Zoning Board meeting on November 5, 2014. Ms. Duffy would like to move to Eastman School by January, 2015.

The committee voted unanimously to present the lease proposal to the full Board at its December 1, 2014 meeting.

The committee adjourned at 6:30 p.m. (motioned by Oliver Spencer, seconded by Kass Ardinger)

Respectfully submitted,

Oliver Spencer, Chair

Matt Cashman, Recorder