

BELMONT HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE
FINAL MEETING MINUTES
December 7, 2017
Wellington School Cafeteria
6:30 PM

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

2018 JAN 29 AM 9:00

Meeting #30

BHS Building Committee Members Attending:

Chair Lovallo; Members: Adam Dash, Tom Caputo, Gerald Boyle, Pat Bruschi, Dan Richards, Phyllis Marshall, Bob McLaughlin, Joe DeStefano, Joel Mooney, Diane Miller, and Jamie Shea

BHSBC Members Absent: Chris Messer, John Phelan

School Committee Members Attending: Catherine Bowen, (Tom Caputo), Andrea Prestwich, Susan Burgess-Cox

Board of Selectmen Attending: Chair Jim Williams and Adam Dash
[Chair Williams called the BOS to order at 6:36 p.m.]

From Daedalus: Tom Gatzunis

From Perkins+Will: Brooke Trivas, Patrick Cunningham, Rick Kuhn, Rob Diemer [as well as David Warner, Kevin Kaddle, Sandra Brock]

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 p.m. by Chair Lovallo. He began by reviewing the evening's agenda. Introductions were made around the table. Chair Lovallo informed the BHSBC that Phil Ruggiero will be stepping down from the Committee due to work commitments; Chair Lovallo thanked him for his work over the last 20 months.

2. Minutes of Previous Meetings

Mr. Bruschi moved: To approve the Minutes of 11/30/17.
The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Meeting Schedule Update

Chair Lovallo reviewed the PSR Public Meeting Summary. He provided highlights of the main points that will be covered at each upcoming meeting.

4. Belmont Energy Initiatives (Belmont Energy Committee – Marty Bitner)

Mr. Marty Bitner, Belmont Energy Committee, began by explaining the mission of the Energy Committee (which serves to implement the Climate Action Plan). [His presentation slides are will be attached when the Minutes are posted.]

Highlights of his presentation include an explanation of both sustainability and zero net energy (ZNE). In 2014, Belmont received the Green Community designation. This included a commitment to reduce the town's energy consumption by 20% over the next few years, and to reduce energy use by 80% by 2050.

He reviewed other initiatives, e.g., stretch energy code, the solar campaign, the electric car campaign, etc. He explained the residential efficiency campaign.

Mr. Bitner discussed the educational benefits of having a ZNE school. ZNE is fiscally responsible, as it will lower operating costs by providing protection from rising energy prices. He did note that upfront costs do exist. He reviewed current energy usage and the associated costs. He highlighted where the energy savings could occur.

5. Sustainability – defining and building trends (Perkins+Will)

Ms. Trivas began by stating that Perkins+Will shares Belmont's commitment to sustainability. Mr. Cunningham explained how sustainability is defined and measured. Sustainability impacts the town and is broadened out to impact the planet and the bottom-line. He explained the LEED and CHP designations, as well as the EUI (Energy Use Intensity) and WUI (Water Use Intensity) concepts. Mr. Warner spoke to various ways to account for energy, e.g., at the site, at the source, cost, emissions. He explained the Responsible Resource Use model energy model.

Ms. Brock discussed site design green infrastructure methods, e.g., rainwater harvesting, green roofs, bio-retention, storm water planters, permeable paving. All of these methods can be integrated and have a function.

Mr. Cunningham discussed material health – the impacts of the materials used in the building on the residents, the environment, and the workers, and how materials are disposed of. He discussed the building's resiliency and the importance of day-lighting, ventilation, rainwater harvesting, building shading, etc. He discussed how decisions will be made (concerning NZE, sustainability) going forward, as well as the relative costs and potential paybacks. Mr. Warner broached the topic of the series of iterative workshops that will be held in the near future.

Mr. Warner then reviewed several NZE case studies from various schools. He reviewed some of the energy reduction/sustainability initiatives that have been implemented, e.g., solar panels, use of daylight, ways to tie sustainability into the education, use of glass, etc. Ms. Brock discussed a New Jersey case which dealt with water run off issues.

Committee Discussion

Chair Lovallo asked about the iterative workshops going forward (as they relate to the design process), as well as the life cycle cost analysis. Mr. Cunningham provided some additional information to address these issues. Mr. Warner and Chair Lovallo then further discussed issues relating to the life cycle and sustainability of the new building.

Mr. McLaughlin asked about the payback tracking. Mr. Cunningham explained how energy modeling can impact the long term payback. Choices will be made that may require an investment up front, but will save (energy and money) in the long term.

Mr. Kaddle reviewed some energy saving methods: LED lighting, high efficiency heating equipment, geothermal heating and cooling, heat recovery, outside air for cooling, etc. In answer to a question from Ms. Bowen, Mr. Warner discussed how ZNE is measured. He explained how changing, modifying and replacing will impact the savings.

BOS Chair Williams asked Mr. Bitner about the town's cost-saving goal (80% by 2050). Mr. Bitner noted that Belmont is not exactly on track; more work is needed. BOS Chair Williams asked about the 50-year life cycle of the various school buildings. Chair Lovallo noted that the 50-year marker is not a set date, but a rough idea of when a school may need attention (which does not necessarily mean a rebuild).

Community Questions

Mr. Jake Knowles stated that ZNE is a real concept, one that is accelerating rapidly. His company is working with many such buildings across the state. ZNE, he said, is not always much more expensive – and there will be payback (savings) down the road (with the operating budget). ZNE will help the town with its carbon goals.

Mr. Claus Becker spoke to the benefits of investing in ZNE. The cost of energy will likely go up with climate change realities. He spoke to its overall benefits.

Mr. Kim Slack, Sustainable Belmont Chair, said that Sustainable Belmont voted unanimously to support ZNE. He asked about the amount of waste that schools produce.

Ms. Anna Churchill, Wellington PTO, spoke to the cafeteria waste. She asked about having a dishwasher in the new building. Ms. Trivas said that recycling and dishwashing will be a part of the conversation.

Mr. Mark Davis, TMM Pct. 1, spoke in favor of ZNE. He said the higher cost initially is worth it, as the annual long-term energy costs will be reduced over time.

Mr. James Booth, Energy Committee, spoke to an electric school in Lexington, MA.

Ms. Natalie Marusiak, BHS student, presented a student petition to support ZNE.

Ms. Laura Vanderhart, spoke to time spent at the high school – noting that it is the “hub of the town” as residents gather there for Town Meeting, for the annual Spelling Bee, etc. She asked about vocational tech education in the new building.

Ms. Jenny Marusiak, TMM Pct. 6, noted that certain targets must be met to continue receiving grant money and to support the Climate Action Plan. She asked about discounted electricity rates for town buildings.

Chair Lovallo thanked the Belmont Energy Committee for its presentation. The building, he said, will be designed with energy efficiency *and* fiscal responsibility in mind.

6. Sustainability Design Ideas for Belmont High School (Perkins+Will)

[Not sure when this agenda item occurred.]

FINAL

7. Comments from Belmont Residents

[Residents spoke after the main discussion; agenda item #5].

8. Next Full Building Committee Meeting

Tuesday, December 12, at 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 p.m. (Community Engagement #5)

9. Other/New Business

No new business.

10. Related Meeting Documents

- 1. Perkins+Will agenda
- 2. BHSBC PSR Public Meeting Summary
- 3. BHS Sustainability 1.0
- 4. Chronology of Belmont’s Environmental Responsibility as of 12/7/17

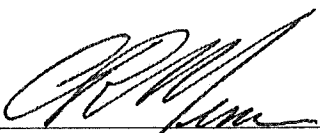
11. End Meeting

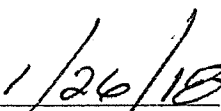
The meeting ended at 8:35 p.m. by Mr. McLaughlin

Respectfully submitted by:

Lisa Gibalerio

Approved:


 Chris Messer, Secretary


 Date