

**BELMONT MIDDLE and HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE JOINT  
MEETING with SCHOOL COMMITTEE (SC)  
Final Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, August 16, 2023  
Virtual Zoom Meeting  
8:00 AM**

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: September 19, 2023  
TIME: 9:14 AM

**Meeting #163**

*Committee Members Virtually Attending:*

Chair Lovallo; Members Emma Thurston, Patrice Garvin, John Phelan, Pat Brusch, Diane Miller, Dave Blazon, Tom Caputo (arrived a bit late), Joel Mooney, Kate Bowen, Jamie Shea, Bob McLaughlin, Chris Messer, Joe DeStefano, Amy Zuccarello

*Absent Members:* Mike McAllister

*School Committee Members Virtually Attending:* Chair Moriarty, Amy Checkoway, Jeff Liberty, Jung Yueh, Amy Zuccarello

*Others in Attendance:* Jill Geiser (incoming Superintendent), Tony DiCologero (Finance Director), Russ Kupperstein (grade 7 and 8 Principal), Karla Koza (Director of Reconfiguration Transition)

*From CHA:* Tom Gatzunis, Don White, Tony DelGreco

*From Perkins+Will:* Vital Albuquerque, Brian Spangler, Christina Mulligan

*From Skanska:* Mike Morrison, Adrian Majewski, Jim Craft

**I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 a.m. by Chair Lovallo. He noted that this is Joint meeting with the School Committee. He thanked Matt and the Belmont Media Center for their technical support. He explained the remote meeting protocol, e.g., votes will be taken via roll call, state your name before speaking, mute computers, etc. Meeting materials were not sent out for this meeting.

SC Chair Moriarty expressed how excited she was for the new building; she thanked the Building Committee for inviting the School Committee to this Joint meeting.

Chair Lovallo took attendance via roll call; SC Chair Moriarty took attendance of the SC members, as well.

Chair Lovallo then reviewed the agenda. He explained that this meeting is was scheduled so that the building can be turned over to those (i.e., School Committee/School Dept.) who will be responsible for managing the building, going forward.

**II. Discussion of Project Schedule**

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Chair Lovallo noted that both the Building Committee and the SC toured the building yesterday; there was a lot of enthusiasm for the project. He explained that punch-list work is occurring and paperwork to officially occupy the building is also happening. Punch-list items will be signed off on one-by-one, by the OPM. This process will take about two-months to complete. PV work is also underway and that will take a bit longer until full production mode (maybe by February). Chair Lovallo added that once the building is officially turned over, it is under the Town/School Department's auspices, i.e., town insurance and town responsibility.

Chair Lovallo noted that this process has been 7.5 years in the works. It has been a huge undertaking involving many people throughout the community and various town departments. He thanked the Building Committee, the School Department, and past and present School Committee members.

Ms. Shea offered that the building is an amazing space for both faculty and students as it fosters innovation and flexibility. She thanked Chair Lovallo, Ms. Brusch and Superintendent Phelan for all their efforts over the years. SC member Liberty also thanked the Committee for their efforts; he asked a question about solar panels. SC member Checkoway noted how thoughtfully the building was designed; she expressed her gratitude and appreciation to the Committee.

Chair Lovallo welcomed the consultants and thanked the entire team (e.g., CHA, Perkins and Will, Skanska) for their work on this project, over the years. SC Chair Moriarty thanked Superintendent Phelan for all his efforts on this project. Chair Lovallo thanked him as well for all his contributions and support throughout the years.

### **III. Building Committee Discussion and Approval of Building Turnover**

Ms. Brusch noted that the building has been Skanska's responsibility and it needs to be accepted (by the Building Committee) *from* Skanska, before it is turned over to the Town/School Department.

*Mr. McLaughlin moved:* That upon the recommendation of CHA and P&W and by reason of the Belmont Middle and High School Building is achieving Substantial Completion of construction and is receiving a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and the Building will be ready for full beneficial use and occupancy, the Belmont Middle and High School Building Committee will accept from Skanska USA, the Belmont Middle and High School Building. The motion passed via a roll call vote of 15-0-0. (Yes: Thurston, Garvin, Phelan, Brusch, Miller, Blazon, Caputo, Mooney, Bowen, Shea, McLaughlin, Messer, DeStefano, Zuccarello, Lovallo)

### **IV. Building Committee Discussion and Approval of Building Acceptance**

Chair Lovallo noted that the motion below will transfer the building to the School Committee.

*Mr. McLaughlin moved:* By reason of the Belmont Middle and High School Building is achieving Substantial Completion of construction and is receiving a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and the Building will be ready for full beneficial use and occupancy, the Belmont Middle and High School Building Committee will transfer the Belmont Middle and High School Building to the Belmont School Committee, together with the full responsibility for the use, management, and operation of the Building.

The motion passed via a roll call vote of 15-0-0. (Yes: Thurston, Garvin, Phelan, Brusch,

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Miller, Blazon, Caputo, Mooney, Bowen, Shea, McLaughlin, Messer, DeStefano, Zuccarello, Lovallo)

Chair Lovallo asked for a SC motion, from SC Chair Moriarty, accepting the transfer of the building.

*SC Chair Moriarty moved:* Upon the report of the Belmont Middle and High School Building Committee that the Belmont Middle and High School Building is achieving Substantial Completion of construction and is receiving a Temporary Certificate of Occupancy and the Building will be ready for full beneficial use and occupancy, the Belmont School Committee will accept from the Belmont Middle and High School Building Committee the Belmont Middle and High School Building, together with the full responsibility for the use, management, and operation of the Building

The motion passed via a roll call vote of 5-0-0. (Yes: Chair Moriarty, Checkoway, Liberty, Jung, Zuccarello)

Chair Lovallo noted that the process will take a day or two to wrap up. The work of the Building Committee now is to close out the project with the contractor.

#### **V. Planning Opening Day Ribbon Cutting, Wed., Sept. 6, 2023 at 8:30 AM**

Ms. Bruschi explained the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony which will be held on the first day of school: Wed., Sept. 6, 2023 at 8:30 AM. The public is welcome to attend the ceremony but will not be allowed in the building. The ceremony should take about 15-minutes.

The building will be publicly dedicated, and public tours will be available, sometime this fall.

#### **VI. End**

The Chair noted that the Building Committee should stay on this link for the Committee's business meeting, which will immediately follow this meeting.

The Chair ended the meeting at 8:34 a.m., following a motion made by Mr. McLaughlin. At this time, the SC ended their meeting, as well.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lisa Gibalerio

Approved:   
Chris Messer, Secretary

September 19, 2023  
Date

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