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TOWN HALL  
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**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 29, 2013  
MILLER-DRISCOLL BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING**

Building Committee Members Present: Fred Rapczynski, Ann Paul, Jim Newton, Ray Tobiassen, Rick Tomasetti, Jim Meinhold, John Murphy, Cheryl Jensen-Gerner, Bruce Hampson, Dick Dubow, Karen Birck

Building Committee Members Absent: John Guth

Guests: Chuck Smith (Assistant Superintendent); Gary Richards (Superintendent), Jesse Saylor (Tai Soo Kim Partners), Greg Van Deusen (BVH Integrated), Alan Aldag (BVH Integrated), Terrie Schwartz (Wilton Security Task Force), Ty Tregellas (Turner Construction), Kim Constantino (Miller-Driscoll teacher), Jeremy Cross (Miller-Driscoll Assistant Principal), Christine Devine (Local Initiatives Support Corporation), Robin Reeves (Miller-Driscoll teacher), Diane Nelson (Miller-Driscoll teacher), Laura Connell (Miller-Driscoll teacher) and Randall Luther (Tai Soo Kim Partners)

Chairman Bruce Hampson called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm. Introductions were made.

Rick Tomasetti requested that the minutes of the August 15, 2013 meeting be corrected to more accurately reflect this comments. The second sentence of the fourth paragraph is deleted and the following is substituted: 'Rick Tomasetti requested a cost breakdown and analysis of the proposed work (new additions & renovations) versus work necessary to repair the existing known defects to the facility such as roofing and mechanical systems. A discussion ensued and it was determined that the information requested will be discovered during the schematic design process.' The minutes were approved as amended.

Bruce Hampson reviewed the building committee's charge as defined by the Board of Selectmen's Statement of Purpose and Objectives for the project. Rick Tomasetti asked how, given the building committee's mandate, the committee would proceed if it determined that renovation of the building did not make economic sense. Dick Dubow indicated the appropriate course of action would be to go back to the Board of Selectmen.

Ty Tregellas reviewed the results of the forensic study of the building done in the summer of 2012. Laura Connell asked for an description of how the mold testing was done.

Randall Luther described how Tai Soo Kim Partners (TSKP) tracks costs on an ongoing basis so that a project stays on budget. One area of concern for a project budget is the unknown unknowns. TSKP has reviewed many of the existing drawings of the building, compared conditions they found in the field with the drawings and made necessary modifications/updates

to the drawings to reflect the actual conditions. In addition, they have take 800 – 1000 photos of existing conditions.

Alan Aldag of BVH Integrated generally described the conditions that his team found when it did its field investigation of existing conditions. He stated that there were no big surprises.

Randall Luther addressed the preliminary design schedule. He described the three choices before the building committee:

- 1) Renovate as new. This may compel us to do work we did not plan to do but that work would be eligible for reimbursement from the state.
- 2) Alterations ie repair, replace and renovate selectively. Only those items which address programmatic needs would be eligible for state reimbursement. Maintenance items would not be eligible for state reimbursement.
- 3) Forego state funding for the project.

It is important that the building committee choose one of these alternatives as soon as possible as the committee's choice will impact design decisions. A subcommittee to was formed to study the state reimbursement issue.

As part of TSKP's process for understanding the needs of the users, Randall Luther and Jesse Saylor would like to spend a day 'walking in the shoes of a teacher', and would like to conduct focused meetings with the school's administrative team, a small group of staff members, a small group of parents and a sampling of outside groups. TSKP would then generate a document reflecting the input of all these groups. Once several design options have been developed, those options would be shared with larger groups. BVH will provide the building committee with a list of the types of groups/people they would like to meet with. Terrie Schwartz suggested that TSKP's security consultant should meet with the Wilton Police chief and/or the Wilton Security Task Force.

Sub-committee reports:

- Fred Rapczynski reported that prior to the building committee meeting a small group had done a walk-thru of the building with Christine Devine and that Christine had provided resource guides on a number of aspects of early childhood education facility project planning.
- Cheryl Jensen-Gerner reported on future trends expected to impact teaching and learning including, but not limited to: whole child, nature of today's students, variety of learners, increase in number of early childhood students attending school, shrinking class sizes, increased school hours, school culture, need for indoor and outdoor play spaces, technology, monitoring and assessment tools, need for flexibility.
- Jim Meinhold reported that the temporary classroom committee had met electronically. Randall Luther said that his goal was to not use temporary classrooms but that he would not know if that would be feasible until he began to design some options.

Karen Birck asked if there would be an opportunity to communicate with parents at the upcoming parent information nights. Fred Rapczynski and Cheryl Jensen-Gerner will work with Holly DeYoung at TSKP to develop a Q & A handout about the project to date.

Next meeting is September 19 at 5:00 pm in the Miller-Driscoll Conference Room.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.