

**BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
FACILITIES COMMITTEE
APRIL 30, 2013
MINUTES**

Mr. Crossley, Facilities Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm in the Education Center Board Room.

Board members attending: Mr. Crossley, Dr. Christman, Mrs. Dierolf, Mr. Elsier, Mrs. Hartford, Mrs. Semmens, Mrs. Usavage.

Administration: Mr. Scoboria, Dr. Amuso, Mr. Szablowski, Mr. Grenewald, Dr. Cooper, BASH Principal.

Members of the Public: 12

Mr. Mark Drabinsky, 414 Rhoads Ave., Boyertown, requested permission to videotape the meeting.

Everyone recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and observed a moment of silence

Public Comment: Mrs. Curry asked about handouts of the evening presentation and the State reimbursement attached to the three story high school renovations.

The minutes from the committee meetings of 4/4/13 were approved as amended, replacing the term “turf” fields with the term “sod”.

The meeting although technically a Facilities Committee is intended to be a workshop with exclusive discussion on the BASH Construction Project.

EI Associates representatives, Mark Barnhardt, Jim Martin and Andy Blyadon presented several alternatives for use of the BASH Three-Story Building for the Committee to evaluate and discuss. A copy of the presentation is included with these minutes.

The alternatives were grouped as follows:

Option 1 would remove the 1938 portion of the old three-story building as is currently included in the design. There were 3 sub-options for the remaining part of the building (pricing for each option was explained):

- A. Tear down the existing 1920 section of the building and replace with an 85-space parking lot.
- B. Keep the 1920 structure, supply new utility service but no other investment, improvement or use of the building is be proposed at this time.
- C. Utilize the 1920 structure by adding new utility services, and improving the remaining space to be occupied as District offices or possibly for a Community Center.

Option 2 would keep the 1938 portion of the old three-story building, abandoning the proposed thoroughfare as included in the current design. The sub-options for use of the building presented were (Both options would mean that the 76,000 square foot of available space in the old building would be utilized and that 76,000 square foot of the proposed addition would be eliminated):

- A. House a 9th Grade Center or Academy
- B. Move the Visual & Performing Arts Academy into the building.

Because the square footage in the three-story would be utilized in place of an addition, namely the Visual & Performing Arts Academy in and around the new auditorium in the current design, the total cost of the project would not be affected.

There was extensive discussion about each proposal and ideas about what use the old building might serve for the School District in the future.

The committee discussed the District population growth as the reason for the project and recapped the history of the decision to add onto and renovate the Senior High School as the School Board had authorized in approving Option 5 of the District Feasibility Study.

The project's current investment is estimated at \$1.2 million and the proposed four academy approach was supported for educational delivery in support of the Comprehensive Plan submitted to the State.

There was discussion about the four construction projects as options that were included in option 5 of the Feasibility Study and the most cost effective way to deal with the District student population growth. The other projects include a new Montgomery County Elementary School, renovations and a small addition to the Junior High West Center, and the possible doubling of

the current Colebrookdale Elementary School, which was supported by one member of the Committee.

There was discussion about each of the proposed options and the pros and cons of each scenario. Mr. Barnhardt proposed an additional option to be considered, which would keep the old building in tact but after supplying the building with utility services to the building, no further upgrades would be performed.

After further discussion, with each member sharing their opinion on the project, the educational program and the old building, the members were polled with two questions: Do you agree not to tear down any part of the old three-story building? And do you agree not to use the old building for educational use, meaning it will not be used to host one of the proposed academies?

Mrs. Dierolf supports keeping the building but would like one of the academies to be housed in the old three-story building.

Mr. Elsier supports keeping the entire building and does not support using it for an academy.

Mrs. Semmens supports keeping the building and does not want an academy in the building.

Dr. Christman supports keeping the building and wants to know what the building would be used for if not for housing an academy.

Mrs. Hartford supports the current design to tear down the 1938 portion and build the road between the two buildings and believes that the academies should stay as currently designed and not use the three-story for education.

Mr. Crossley would like to keep the entire building but not use it for education purposes.

Mrs. Usavage supports the current design but could also support not tearing down the building but to not use it for education.

With a majority of the committee favoring to keep the old three-story building in total, but to not use the building for an academy, the committee

tasked administration with determining what would be the best use for the building. Mrs. Usavage suggested engaging the Community.

The committee agreed to meet again to continue the discussion on Monday, May 6, 2013 at 6:30 in the Education Center Board Room.

Mr. Paul Stengle questioned the need for the project at all, suggesting the expansion is not needed. He stated that the investment should be made into teachers and educational programs instead of building projects.

Announcements

May 6, 2013	6:30 pm	Facilities Committee	Education Center
May 14, 2013	7:00 pm	School Board Meeting	Education Center
(Proposed date of PLANCON Part D & E approval)			
May 21, 2013	5:30 pm	Facilities Committee	Education Center

Mr. Crossley announced the Board would be holding a brief executive session to discuss personnel items immediately following adjournment.

Mr. Crossley adjourned the meeting at 8:21 pm.