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SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT NO. 27

Litchfield, New Hampshire 03052

August 14, 2007

APPROVED MINUTES

Present:

Ms. Tracy Caprioglio, Building Committee Chair
Mr. Mike Boschi, Building Committee Member
Mr. Karl Franck, Building Committee Member
Mr. Jack Scheiner, Building Committee Member
Mrs. Cindy Couture, School Board Representative
Mr. Martin Schlichter, Principal, GMS

1) Call to Order

Ms. Caprioglio called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

2) Approval of Minutes –

Minutes of July 31, 2007

Ms. Caprioglio explained that Ms. Hamblett and Mrs. Flynn could not be present at the meeting tonight. She suggested the minutes be deferred to the next meeting.

Mr. Franck made a motion to table the minutes to the next meeting. Mr. Scheiner seconded. The motion passed.

3) Review outcome and any comments from July 31st meeting

Ms. Caprioglio mentioned that there was an article in the HLN regarding the July 31 meeting and the options the Committee is focusing on. She noted that the Committee received some positive feedback from community members that attended the meeting.

Ms. Caprioglio also commented that the Committee received an emailed letter from Ed Murdough [NH DOE] about his opinion on dehumidification of GMS. She indicated that it is Mr. Murdough's opinion that dehumidification of the building will not work and that we are free to prove him wrong. Ms. Caprioglio stated that architects and contractors who have worked with the Committee have indicated that they believe dehumidification will work and she would like to see that in writing. She added that she would like Harriman Associates to state in writing why dehumidification will work at GMS. She added that she is uncomfortable that Mr. Murdough feels dehumidification may not work and would like to see Harriman's opinion on why dehumidification will work in writing.

Mr. Boschi noted that Mr. Cecil [Harriman Associates] stated that he cannot guarantee that dehumidification will work. Mr. Scheiner suggested that dehumidification is all engineer concept and design because they have to know what kind of system is recommended and the volume or area to be dehumidified. Mrs. Couture noted that Harriman has said that they will not guarantee that dehumidification will work.

Ms. Caprioglio indicated that there are conflicting opinions regarding whether or not dehumidification will work. Mr. Scheiner repeated that it is an engineering question and that there will not be a final answer until engineers calculate the area that needs to be dried out. He suggested that a smaller area could be dehumidified if they decide to use GMS for the SAU, PreKindergarten, and Kindergarten.

Mrs. Couture expressed that she believes the State is more concerned with what the water is doing [or could do] to the bricks and mortar and not the humidity in the air. Ms. Caprioglio commented that the State is not stating how they would test to determine if the dehumidification is working. Mrs. Couture indicated that is a question to ask the State. Ms. Caprioglio suggested that Ms. Hamblett ask the State how they test to determine if dehumidification is working in a school building.

Mr. Boschi felt Mr. Murdough was referring to the moisture problem in the building and not the groundwater. Mr. Boschi expressed that the problem is not the groundwater, but the moisture in the building that needs to be addressed. Mrs. Couture commented that Mr. Murdough's letter refers to the groundwater, which gives her the impression that the State is concerned with the effects of the groundwater on the bricks and mortar. Mr. Boschi indicated that he felt the letter was an answer to a specific problem stated in Ms. Hamblett's email to Mr. Murdough. He believes that if the main purpose is to dewater the site, then dehumidification would not be an option. The purpose is not to dewater the site, but to solve the moisture problem.

Ms. Caprioglio indicated that it is a matter of interpretation. Mr. Scheiner indicated that the groundwater is high, but must be flowing at a fast rate in order for the water to remain at a certain level. He added that it is his opinion that no one has a solution to the problem. There have been many suggestions, but many questions remain. He cautioned that when election time arrives, information needs to be clear for the voters.

As discussion about the July 31 open forum continued, Ms. Caprioglio indicated that once the Committee makes a recommendation to the Board perhaps the community member [Fred Snell] who had suggestions about how the information should be presented to the public can assist in the preparation of the presentation. Mr. Boschi agreed that Mr. Snell raised good points at the July 31 meeting. He added that once the Committee makes its recommendation and the Board [hopefully] approves it, we can prepare a concise document that provides clarification for the voters, as well as providing tax numbers in a logical way that the voters understand. Ms. Caprioglio commented that we need someone experienced in marketing to help communicate this information to the voters.

4) Review progress of Space Allocation Workbook

Ms. Caprioglio reviewed the progress of the space allocation workbook with the Committee. She indicated that on Friday, August 17 she, Mr. Boschi and Ms. Hamblett will meet with Mr. Cecil of Harriman Associates to work on the space allocation workbook.

Mr. Boschi commented that there was some confusion over the workbook at a previous meeting with Mr. Cecil because the designs presented were not in line with the Committee's specifications. Mr. Schlichter expressed that there were many options and there are a lot of space allocation workbooks out there. He also noted that the square footage that Harriman presented wasn't much different than what he and Mr. Boschi calculated. However, he suggested that a firm number for square footage needs to be determined. Mr. Boschi noted that there were a few areas in the space allocation workbook Mr. Cecil presented that were different from what he and Mr. Schlichter submitted. Mr. Schlichter indicated that it will be helpful to meet with Mr. Cecil on Friday to clarify what is needed for square footage.

5) Determine the next steps for the committee

Ms. Caprioglio asked Mrs. Couture what the next steps are for the Committee once the space allocation workbook information is presented. Mrs. Couture indicated that after the workbook is completed, Mr. Cecil will provide cost estimates and the Committee will have the data they need to make a decision.

Mrs. Couture reported that she went to the Selectmen's meeting this past week as the approval of Impact Fees for architectural fees [for GMS] was on the agenda. She noted that there was some confusion over the motions to approve the Impact Fees, but that they did approve the use of Impact Fees. The Selectmen's legal counsel will verify the motion for clarification.

Committee members discussed the date for the next meeting, but agreed to wait until Friday's meeting with Mr. Cecil to determine a date. Ms. Caprioglio will advise the Committee with Mr. Cecil's schedule to determine the date for the next meeting.

6) Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele E. Flynn
Secretary