

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

March 22, 2023

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bueno, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Andersen, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Monroe, Mr. Veitch

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Mrs. Kohler, Mrs. Potter, Mr. Balestracci, Ms. Bouchard

STAFF ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Members of the community and staff; Bobby Bernardo

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Kuechler at 6:30pm.

Ms. Kuechler read the recording policies for the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call of Committee Members: Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Veitch

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from March 8, 2023 was made by Mr. Bueno, seconded by Mr. Veitch, approved 5-0-1, Mr. Monroe abstained.

Report of the Student Advisory Committee

Ms. DaCunha spoke of spring athletics. Mr. Monroe spoke of drama club.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Mrs. Kohler asked to take the 3rd bullet out of order. The Chair and committee agreed.

Receive request for Turf Field Rental for South Coast United Soccer club

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated this was regarding the use of the turf field by Southcoast United Soccer Club. Mr. Bernardo was present to answer any questions. The committee did not have any. Mrs. Kohler recommended the committee permit the use of the field for dates as early as April 2, 2023, pending the regulatory meeting to review the policies of the turf field use. Motion to allow the turf field to be rented by Southcoast United Soccer Club made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Andersen, approved, unanimously, 6-0.

Receive request for Turf Field Rental for Vipers Soccer

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated that the Vipers are looking to rent the field to have practices. They would like to be able to hold the practices Monday-Thursday, working around our schedule, from April 3-June 8. Mr. Monroe stated they typically give the discretion to the Superintendent to set the rental rates. Motion to approve the turf field rental to Vipers Soccer made by Mr. Bueno, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved, unanimously, 6-0.

Receive FY24 Preliminary Budget update

Mrs. Kohler presented. They went to the joint meeting last week. There is a consideration a Prop2 ½ override. We are asking for an increase of 3.5%. The School Department was invited to go the meeting the following night and they will be attending. The final numbers should be coming in by April 1. The roof project at EHMS was discussed. Originally it was slated at \$1.7M-\$1.8M, we are now at \$2.3M-2.4M.

Receive update regarding the storage facility at FHS Alumni Stadium

Mrs. Kohler presented. She reviewed the history of the bathroom project. Originally there was to be 2 handicap stalls and they were looking to put them in the current storage area. We would then have a storage void. Mr. Balestracci went over the rendering of the design that is ongoing with Greater New Bedford Voc Tech. They reviewed the renderings presentation as Mr. Balestracci reviewed the timeline and aesthetics plans.

Receive Facilities projects updates

Mrs. Kohler presented. She reviewed the list of projects. They included the shed project, phase 1 of the historical restoration, the FHs flagpole which is a paint and lift (through the alumni association), the boiler room roof repair, the front entrance loop repair at the high school, and the EHMS drop off pavement repair. Mrs. Potter presented regarding the PAC lighting at EHMS. She stated the materials and lighting is becoming obsolete and difficult to maintain. We are working with the energy company that the Town works with to see if there are any incentives. The EHMS roof replacement and safety measures.

Receive EHMS Roof Options

Mrs. Kohler presented. She discussed the \$2.397M project of the EHMS roof. This is the cost to do it all at once. We have asked about 2 phases. Phase 1 would include the area used as a shelter and phase 2 would be the following summer and include the 8th grade hallway. Mr. Monroe suggested contacting Representative Strauss. Mr. Monroe and Mr. Andersen expressed their concerns with the 2 phase approach including increased costs and timeframes.

Upcoming Events:

Next meeting: April 12, 2023
Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

New Business

Vote to award the Extended Day Contract.

Mrs. Potter presented. She stated that they went out to bid and 2 bids came back. They had put together a selection committee consisting of Mrs. Potter, Mr. Balestracci, Mr. Veitch and the 2 elementary VPs. Champions was recommended for a for a 3 year contract with 2 1 year extensions. Motion made to award the Extended Day Contract to Champions made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved unanimously, 6-0.

Vote to move up to \$600,000.00 from Salary to Operations.

Mrs. Kohler presented. She would like to move the funds so that we may start on some of the projects we talked about. Motion made to move up to \$600,000.00 from Salary to Operations made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Andersen, approved, unanimously, 6-0.

There will be no Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved, unanimously, 6-0.

Adjourned at 7:35pm.



Tara M. Kohler
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools