

Superintendent's Advisory Task Force Meeting Notes

Provided by Jean Duggan, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent and BOE

January 23, 2017
District Office Administrative Center
115 W. 55th St.
Clarendon Hills, IL 60514

Call to Order

6:00pm

Welcome and Introductions

Superintendent Dr. Don White introduced himself and asked the Task Force members to provide a background about themselves.

The following members were in attendance:

- Dr. Don White - Superintendent
- Kerry Leonard - Construction Owner's Representative (pending Board of Education approval)
- Mike Duggan – Director of Facilities
- Gary Clarin – Clarendon Hills resident, Board of Education member, and Chair of the BOE Facilities Committee
- Jerry Mejdrich – Hinsdale resident and member of the BOE Finance Committee
- Paul Sporleder – Hinsdale resident and parent of an HMS student
- Steve Cashman – Hinsdale resident, parent of a CHMS student, and member of the BOE Facilities Committee
- Kathleen Turnbull – Hinsdale resident and parent of students at HMS
- Brian Guerin – Hinsdale resident
- Craig Cassell – Hinsdale resident and parent of a Madison School student
- Brian Kronewitter – Architect with Corodogan Clark & Associates
- Bill Trutty – Project Manager with Bulley & Andrews
- Peter Kuhn – Project Executive with Bulley & Andrews

Dr. White discussed his high-level goals and the purpose of the Task Force:

- Transparency
- Utilizing the expertise of the Task Force as an advisory group
- Assistance with anticipating future needs and potential issues / concerns with the HMS construction process

Task Force Norms / Parameters

Dr. White reviewed the following parameters:

- The task force is not subject to the Open Meetings Act.
- The task force will provide status reports for the public.
- He anticipated that the Task Force would be meeting once per month (possibly electronically).

Purpose

Dr. White reviewed the previously published purpose of the Task Force: "To oversee the expenditure of public funds for the HMS construction project, to be an advisory team for the District administration, to ensure that construction is responsive to the Board of Education's desires and in line with what voters approved, and to support successful completion of the project. The group is intended to be collaborative, working together on behalf of taxpayers and in cooperation with District personnel and hired professionals. The Task Force does not have decision-making authority. Their task is limited to the construction of a new HMS."

The Task Force engaged in a brief discussion with regard to Dr. White having the committee review change orders. He noted that he might email the group and attempt to gather as much information as possible from whomever is able to offer their opinion at the time. He discussed the importance of having to make decisions quickly. He noted that he could approve change orders up to \$25,000 without Board approval, although he anticipates bringing all change orders to the Board for approval.

Status of Current Legislation / Litigation Issues

Dr. White reviewed the status of legislation and litigation related to the DuPage County Election Commission error, including the notice sent by Chapman & Cutler (bond counsel), December Board action on the bond sale. He explained pending legislation (Amendment to Senate Bill 3319), the status of a separate lawsuit, and next steps.

The task force engaged in a lengthy discussion regarding the pending legislation and pending lawsuit. They discussed the best-case and worst-case scenarios as related to cost due to a possible delay in the project timeline. Dr. White noted that Chapman & Cutler would not offer an opinion on the sale of bonds until the legislation and lawsuit matters are resolved. He noted that the District would be able to continue with the project with the current cash flow until approximately March 13, 2017 (first bid package) and has approximately \$35 million in reserves. He confirmed that the District would be able to be reimbursed from the bond proceeds for any work prior to "putting a shovel in the ground." They then discussed the possibility of the Election Commission reimbursing the District's costs.

Task Force members discussed the value of applying public pressure regarding the pending legislation and pending lawsuit (i.e. to the DuPage County Election

Commission). They suggested publishing to the taxpayers the true cost that results from the Election Commission's error and the lawsuit filed by community members, suggesting possible placement of this item on the next Finance Committee meeting agenda.

Brian Kronewitter provided information related to the timing of the bid packages, amount of the bid packages, and consequences if the bid packages were delayed (i.e. overtime costs, possible mid-year opening). He noted that he would prepare a document outlining details related to a delayed project.

Next Steps

- Dr. White will send a copy of the proposed Amendment to Senate Bill 3319 to the Superintendent's Advisory Task Force.
- Peter Kuhn will provide an outline of the escalation costs.
- Dr. White will send the Advisory Task Force the name of the judge assigned to the legal case.

Project Overview

Dr. White, Mr. Kronewitter, Mr. Kuhn, and Mr. Trutty reviewed the project overview with the Advisory Task Force. They covered the following topics:

- Design changes recently approved by the Board of Education
- What the school will look like (exterior)
- Parking plan
- Floor plans (interior)
- Scheduled opening of school pending no delay (August 2018)
- Anticipated project timeline from November 2016 – November 2018 (completion)
- Current plans for site logistics, including parking
- Off-site parking for construction personnel
- Demolition of the current building (beginning in June 2018)
- Review of what is included in the project budget beyond actual construction costs
- Storm water detention location (will be below grade)
- Possible removal of debris under the "bowl" and the soil boring results
- Status of the commitment from the Village of Hinsdale with regard to parking and the full cost of the parking for the Village
- FF&E and determining what will be used from the current building
- Whether liquidated damage language is included in the sub-contractors' contracts

Task Force members discussed the pros and cons of including the running track alternate bid in the first bid package. The committee consensus was to include it in bid package one and hold awarding it until bid package two results are ready. Task Force members discussed the results of the community survey with regard to the running track (majority of survey respondents did not support it) vs. the instructional benefits to students.

Next Steps

- Peter Kuhn will review contract language regarding liquidated damages.
- Peter Kuhn and Brian Kronewitter will provide Task Force members with a list of alternate bids.
- Dr. White will send the Task Force members the community survey results.
- Review bid package #1 results with the Task Force at the next meeting (approximately the week of March 13).

Expectations / Comments

Brian Guerin noted that the meeting was very informative.

Jerry Mejdrich discussed the importance of student safety during construction, managing costs, the impact of change orders, and knowing the total cost of the project. He noted that his practice was to submit every change order to the Board of Education for approval, but said the process should not hold up the project.

Craig Cassel suggested that the District's focus should be on solving the lawsuit issue.

Kathleen Turnbull commented on the need to aggressively pursue a solution to the lawsuit issue. She asked if the District could determine if damages could be imposed on the plaintiffs.

Adjournment

8:06pm