

ROCHESTER-STOCKBRIDGE UNIFIED DISTRICT
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
SPECIAL BUILDING COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2019 – 5:30 PM
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ROCHESTER CAMPUS
APPROVED MINUTES

1. Call to Order at 5:30. In attendance was RSUD Special Building Committee members; Kricket McCuster, Robert Gardner, Amy Wildt, Joanne Mills, Carl Groppe, Willis Whitaker, and Co Principals Lindy Stetson, and Bonnie Bourne.

1. Adjustments to the Agenda

1. Public Comment

1. Action Item

1. Elect a Chair. Joanne Mills made a motion to elect Carl Groppe as Chair, Robert Gardner seconded. So moved.
2. Clarify Committee Charge. The purpose of this Committee is to analyze the details of the Black River Engineering Report, to understand what is say's about our current structures and properties and to present the information to the full board and community.
3. Create a Plan of Action:

The first meeting of the RSUD Building committee was to get organized and to take a look at the information from Black River Design. Black River Design has organized a structural analysis and a use analysis of the buildings. Also Black River Design sub contracted out with Engineering ventures to understand the grounds and Engineering Services of Vermont (ESV) for a mechanical and electrical analysis. All these are in this report. To begin with the part that Black River did, the architectural report, there is no real commercial school codes to say what a school needs to conform to to be a school in Vermont , so the space analysis is based on recommendations from the AOE and looking at other schools with about our population keeping line with ADA.

Currently the committee is reading through the Study to get familiar with its content and understand what we are working with. It is important that the committee at this step only looks at the facts around the conditions of our property, not the location of property or what that may or may not mean or what it implies for the tax rate and tax payers. We need to first understand the buildings. We are on a fact finding mission.

The second step of this would be looking at what our communities wants. Is there interest in the communities for another group to take over one of our buildings? What are the best educational uses for our property's? And third understanding if we are to do anything, how would it be

financed? Looking into things like USDA Rural Development Grant's and some other idea's for possible scenarios.

The charge of this committee is to complete step one. To analyze the details of the Black River Engineering Report, to understand what is say's about our current structures and to present the information to the full board and community.

When looking at this report we really need to digest what it say's, and just because the report puts a high priority on specific architectural recommendation, we need to understand that this is just a suggestion. An example; In this report it is suggested that a high priority is to install a dust collection system for the shop. It is highly unlikely that the RSUD Board would agree with this suggestion. There are many other suggestions and additions that the engineers added, but they are just suggestions. The RSUD School Board will be making decisions on what steps to take, with the factual information presented to them from this committee.

As we digest and understand this report, we need to establish the facts. There is so much out there that is so far from the facts and we really need to correct them so everyone knows the facts. There are many architectural recommendations, and it's important to understand why those where recommended, but also not to jump to conclusions and get nervous when we see a new addition on a buildings. They are just this architect's idea's. This committee is charged with understanding this data and present the Facts to the RSUD Board and the committee.

1. Other

1. Discuss Future Meeting Dates: Tuesday, October 29, at 6:00pm in Stockbridge and Tuesday, November 12, at 6:00pm in Rochester.

1. Adjourn