

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
11/4/2011

Committee Chair Bernie Brady called the meeting to order at 7:32 AM.

Other Committee Members Present: Sue Moore, Kathy Oxberry, Mel Brodsky, Alan Tabachnick

Other Board Members Present: Kelly Jowett, Jodi MisCannon, Gary Johnson

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Ms. Linda Doll, Community Resident

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

The Committee reviewed a drawing for a proposed subdivision on Militia Hill Road near Butler Pike. The developer, at the request of Whitemarsh Township, contacted the District in an effort to determine what bus stops may be required by the Transportation Department. The Transportation Department felt that based on the amount of students, the existing stop on Butler Pike may suffice, but also indicated that a stop at the intersection of the proposed entrance to the development and Militia Hill Road would be appreciated. The developer agreed to include sidewalks and a bus stop on the southwest corner of the intersection of the entrance lane and Militia Hill Road. The Committee was very pleased that Whitemarsh Township is including the District in the planning stages of developments proposed in Whitemarsh Township.

An update was provided on the proposed plan to raise the height of the spillway on the detention basin that runs parallel to fields 6 and 7 at the PWHS. The purpose of the spillway is to allow storm water to flow out of the detention basin so that it does not breach the sides of the basin. The District received a complaint from the homeowner of the property that the storm water runs on to when it flows out of the basin. Raising the height of the spillway will allow more water to be stored in the detention basin during a large storm event decreasing the chances that storm water will flow on to the homeowner's property. A preliminary design for raising the spillway was provided to the township engineer for consideration. The township engineer reviewed the proposed plan and suggested that it may be possible to completely eliminate the spillway by raising the height of the existing spillway to that of the existing berm. A preliminary calculation provides that three (3) times the amount of water will be able to be contained in the basin during a storm event by making the height of the spillway level with the existing berm. Another drawing will be submitted and if approved by the Township, the district will move forward with the project.

The Committee discussed a concern with the current practice of providing District pick-up trucks to haul the trailer for band competitions. A recent incident involving one of the pick-up trucks highlighted a problem with the current practice. The pick-up truck broke down on the Pennsylvania Turnpike while being used to haul the trailer to a band competition in Pittsburgh. The repair costs, towing costs and costs to rent a vehicle to complete the trip were substantial. In addition, the Turf Management Department was not able to complete certain tasks while the pick-up truck was in the shop for repairs. One suggestion was to limit the use of the District pick-up trucks to events within a certain distance of our campus. Rental trucks would be required for any events outside of the pre-determined geographical area. The Committee felt that this was a good suggestion and then discussed the payment for rental vehicle. Some felt that the District should bear the cost of the rental vehicle while others felt that this cost should be borne by the Band Boosters. A decision was made to perform an analysis to determine how other districts handle this expense as well as how this expense was handled in the past by our District. This information will be presented to the Committee for review at a future FM/T Committee meeting.

A meeting took place with the Whitemarsh Township Planning Consultant regarding the possibility of installing an electronic sign in the front of the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School. The PWHHS Cass of 2012 has offered to help offset the cost of the sign as a class gift. The installation of an electronic sign of the size that we would like is not permitted under the current zoning code. The District will have to apply for a variance to the existing code. The Committee provided support in moving forward with the necessary legal steps for the zoning variance. Accordingly, the solicitor will be contacted to begin the process of applying for the variance.

The Committee reviewed a matrix that contained the costs for the rental of our facilities. The amount charged for rentals of our facilities, with the exception of the stadium and the tennis courts, have not increased in seven (7) years. The Committee provided support in exploring the possibility of increasing rates for use of our facilities by groups outside of our community. Neighboring districts will be contacted and asked to provide their rates for use of their facilities. This information will be provided at a future FM/T Committee meeting along with a recommendation for a change in rates.

A proposal for the repair of a storm water pipe was presented for committee review. The pipe is connected to storm water inlets on Belvoir Road, the roof drains of CMS and field drains on the athletic fields at CMS. A section of the pipe has collapsed and needs to be repaired as soon as possible. Plymouth Township will be contacted to determine what, if any, obligation they may have in the repair as the pipe is connected to the township storm sewer system. The Committee gave approval to move forward with the repair while dealing with the Township.

The Committee provided approval to dispose of a backhoe that is stored at the compound. The backhoe is twenty-six (26) years old and is in need of major repairs to get the unit running. Once running it may need further repairs to ensure that the unit can be operated safely. Due to the limited need for the backhoe and the cost for repairs with no

guarantees the Committee agreed to move forward with disposal of the unit. Accordingly, the Facilities Management Department will advertise the sale of the unit and sell it to the highest bidder.

A plan to replace the potable water system at CES was provided for Committee review. The current system was installed in 1968 and is in need of major repair. In addition, the system is oversized and is costing the District a substantial amount of energy to operate. The unit was originally designed and sized to supply water for showers for all students participating in physical education classes. Students are no longer required to take showers and many of the original shower stalls have been converted to storage rooms. A plan will be provided to remove the existing system and install a new system that is sized for today's demands. The replacement plan will be provided for Committee review at a future meeting.

An update was provided on revenue initiatives for the Food Services Department. The MySchoolBucks program was put into use on October 28, 2011. Approximately \$9,000 was placed on account by many parents in the District during the first five (5) days. Members of the Food Service Department indicated that this amount is more money than what was put on account ,in a similar time period, before the MySchoolBucks system was put into use. In addition, we have received positive feedback regarding the ability for parents to use the system to check on the purchases being made by their children. The Food Service Department is in the process of negotiating an agreement with Montgomery Early Learning Center (MELC) to supply hot breakfasts and afternoon snacks for the MELC students at the same cost that our students pay. The plan is scheduled to go into effect on December 5, 2011 and, if successful, could increase annual revenues by approximately \$20,000.

The Turf Management Department is moving forward with a plan to plant trees on the property line of the homes on the southern side of Emerson Drive. The plan was a requirement of the approval process for the installation of the athletic field lighting on Victory Fields. Letters were sent to eight (8) homeowners inviting those that wanted trees to contact the District to set up a meeting. As of the November 1, 2011 only one homeowner requested trees. A meeting was conducted with the homeowner to determine the placement of the trees. The trees will be planted within the next thirty (30) days.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

The Committee went into executive session at 8:27 AM to discuss a legal matter.

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Brady adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:04 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations