

**BETHLEHEM AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD FACILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2010**

Mrs. Michele Cann, Facilities Chairperson of the Board of School Directors, called the meeting of the Board Facilities Committee to order at 7:06 p.m. on Monday, October 4, 2010, in the Dining Room of the Education Center. Present were School Board members Loretta Leeson, William Burkhardt, Benjamin Tenaglia, Michele Cann, Rosario Amato, Irene Follweiler, Michael Faccineto, Aurea Ortiz, and Eugene McKeon. Also present were Dr. Joseph J. Roy, superintendent of schools; Stacy Gober, assistant to the superintendent for finance and administration; Arif Fazil, D'Huy Engineering, Inc.; Ann Behers, operations manager; and representatives from the press.

The following items were discussed:

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS –

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS –

Mr. Fazil introduced number two on the agenda, Energy Update. He said there was no PowerPoint presentation for this month, and the only update he had was for the Freedom High School solar canopy project. He noted that they will be going through the land development process with Bethlehem Township since the township has defined the solar canopies as building structures, and this will set the project behind.

Mr. McKeon asked if this setback will have an impact on the grant.

Mr. Fazil said probably not, and it was anticipated that this project will still be started by the end of the year.

Dr. Roy explained agenda item A, Private Transportation Contracts. He said that letters B, C, and D were agreements to transport special needs students, while letter A was an agreement with Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) to transport Liberty High School students. He stated that the LANTA buses are used in lieu of district buses, that this contract is a fare based agreement, and the district will receive a dollar for dollar reimbursement for the student's transportation. The district will only pay the fare for these students when they are using the buses.

Mr. Fazil explained agenda item B, Bid Award – Liberty High School Baseball Netting. He said the letter from Ohio Casualty was provided to the board as some questions had been asked as to why this project was being done. Ohio Casualty's loss prevention department recommended that this netting be put in place. Mr. Fazil then explained the plan and bid tabulation to the board. He said that the cost of the base bid included the installation of seven wood poles, guy anchors, and the net. Guy anchors must be installed to restrain the poles from wind load and tension. By

awarding alternate 2 instead of the base bid, steel poles would be installed instead of wood poles. Installing steel poles would mean that the guy anchors could be eliminated as the steel poles are set in concrete. Mr. Fazil also noted that steel poles last longer than wood, and are more aesthetically pleasing.

Dr. Roy said that his understanding was that the netting would not come down to ground level.

Mr. Fazil said that statement was correct. The net will remain approximately ten feet off the ground as to not block spectator's views of the field or be damaged by anyone. Mr. Fazil then reviewed alternate 2a; he said that this was included as a third option to extend the netting system an additional fifty feet along the third baseline. He noted that this area is not an area that is typically a problem area.

Mr. McKeon asked what the estimated life of the net and wood poles was.

Mr. Fazil answered that it was approximately twenty years for the poles as well as for the net.

Mrs. Leeson wanted confirmation that by upgrading to the steel poles, the total project would cost approximately \$55,000.

Mr. Fazil said that was correct.

Mr. Burkhardt said that he would like to see the steel poles installed instead of the wood poles as \$70 million was just spent renovating the Liberty High School campus. The steel poles will last longer and are more aesthetically pleasing.

Mr. McKeon asked if it would be possible to have the netting installed on a pulley system.

Mr. Fazil said it could, but it would be an additional expense. Mr. Fazil also reported that he has spoken with the Liberty High School athletic director, Mr. Sam Senneca, in regard to the additional fifty feet along the third baseline. Mr. Senneca stated that it was not necessary.

Mrs. Leeson asked if the additional fifty feet could be installed in the future. Would it be cheaper to install it now as opposed to later?

Mr. Fazil answered that it can be installed later if the board wishes, but it will be more expensive in the future due to mobilization costs.

After a vote, it was decided that this item will appear on the Regular Board Meeting agenda, and alternate two would be awarded.

Mr. Fazil then explained agenda item C, Quotations for the \$5,800 - \$15,200 Cost Category – East Hills Middle School Bleacher Repairs. He said that the bleachers are in need of general repairs, and that this item is being brought to the board for information.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE OCTOBER 25, 2010, REGULAR BOARD MEETING –

After discussion, the board committee agreed to bring the following agenda items to the October 25, 2010, Regular Board Meeting:

- A. Private Transportation Contracts
- B. Bid Award – Liberty High School Baseball Netting
- C. Quotations for the \$5,800 - \$15,200 Cost Category – East Hills Middle School Bleacher Repair

COURTESY OF THE FLOOR TO VISITORS –

None.

OPEN FORUM –

Mr. McKeon said that at the BECA versus Central game, there was an elderly couple struck by a car. He asked Mr. Fazil if it would be possible to put pedestrian crossing signs up on game nights. Is this the district's responsibility or the city's?

Mr. Fazil answered that he believed the best approach would be to discuss this issue with Mr. Barron from the City of Bethlehem.

Dr. Roy said that Dr. Donaher and the athletic directors have scheduled meetings to discuss safety on game nights. This will include pedestrian control, traffic control, and similar issues.

Mr. Tenaglia asked for an update on the most recent sinkhole problems.

Mr. Fazil said that at this time, he does not have an update as nothing has been done due to the weather. He said that the worst sinkhole is located at East Hills Middle School, and that there will most likely be a recommendation in the capital plan next year to mitigate these problems.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

Kristen M. Snyder, Secretary to the Director of Facilities and Operations

Ann Marie Behers, Operations Manager