

# MINUTES

## B-SPACE COMMITTEE MEETING 5/20/13

Committee Members - present marked with "x"			
Betsy DeWitt	x	Philip Kramer	x
Alan Morse	x	Bill Lupini	
George Cole	x	Michael Sandman	*8
Katherine Craven		Rebecca Stone	x
Lisa Crossley	x	Fred Wang	
Ken Goldstein	x	Neil Wishinsky	x
Mel Kleckner	x	Michael Sandman	**

\*\* : Michael Sandman attended remotely from Singapore until the Committee broke up into its subcommittees.

Also attending Susan Ditkoff and Cynthia Tsao.

The meeting commenced at 6:35 PM. Betsy DeWitt asked for a motion to accept the minutes of the 5/13/13 meeting. The motion was made and seconded subject to two adjustments: one was to add the link to the BATV video of the meeting, and the other offered by Ms. Stone was to change the language on page 1, first line, last paragraph, delete "Research shows" and insert "Dr. Lupini indicated"

Ms. DeWitt introduced Cynthia Tsao, a professional consultant enabling groups to organize information needed to make complex decisions. Ms. Tsao has been trained to use **The Choosing by Advantages (CBA) decision-making** approach authored by Jim Suhr. She is a Brookline resident, and volunteered to work with B-SPACE to organize its information so a recommendation could be made to the School Committee objectively and efficiently. After interviewing her at some length, at the request of Ms.

DeWitt and Mr. Morse, Ms. Tsao explained CBA to the Committee. She explained the key aspects of the system which are:

1. to identify the principal factors to be considered when developing the recommendation;
2. to list said factors in order of priority;
3. for each factor identify measurable criteria to apply when evaluating each alternative plan being considered.

The Committee had a number of questions and a discussion ensued. a principal concern was that the Committee did not yet have all the adequate data necessary to develop a well grounded recommendation. Ms. Tsao indicated that her system would enable the Committee to pinpoint the data lacking as part of the analysis process. At that point the Committee indicated it was receptive to developing the factors and criteria necessary to utilize her system. This process will be developed at the next Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday May 29.

Mr. Morse then explained that in order to expedite the engagement of HMFH Architects to provide additional analysis for the committee, its assignment would need to be reduced in order to enable a contract extension. Mr. Kleckner explained another alternative which would be to do a sole source contract. A discussion ensued resulting in prioritizing the assignment elements as follows:

1. Options for expansion of all elementary schools (with the exception of Devotion and Runkle)
2. Development of a new K-8 or 9-12 school on one or more locations.
3. Expand the existing High School Concept Study involving issues more directly involved with high school space issues, including development of the Cypress Street property for a single grade school as part of the High School campus and the expansion of the Unified Arts building for High School classroom space.
4. Identify issues with other elementary school space impacting the size, scope or sequencing of construction of the Devotion School.

Mr. Kleckner volunteered to take this information back to Mr. Rowe and the Town's procurement officer to determine the most efficient and legal manner to contract for the required work.

The Committee then reviewed the second iteration of an outline for our final report prepared by George Cole. Several suggestions were made which Mr. Cole agreed to incorporate in to a third rendition of the outline.

Following the above discussion the subcommittees met to work.