

DRAFT B-SPACE MINUTES MONDAY 8/26/13
5:30 PM, School Committee Room

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

Staff Present: Peter Rowe, Deputy Superintendent of Schools

Approval of minutes

Minutes of the Aug. 12, 2013 meeting were held for members to respond by email with corrections and additions.

Members discussed the next steps in the process. After the final draft of the B-SPACE report is approved, the School Capital Improvement Subcommittee will review the draft report and make a recommendation to the School Committee, who will hold a public hearing before adopting a recommendation in September for a combination of projects and programs to address classroom space needs over the next decade. At the same time, the Override Study Committee, Co-chaired by Selectman Benka and SC Vice-Chair Susan Wolfe Ditkoff, will be undertaking a review of all the information gathered by B-SPACE and other sources to develop a financing plan for operating and capital needs.

The task before the Committee meeting was to review the draft report, which had been created by the small group of editors (Dr. Crossley, and Messrs. Sandman and Wishinsky) led by Ms. Stone. The DRAFT Report was distributed by email in the afternoon, printed versions were distributed at the meeting. Most of the discussion centered around the executive summary and Section 5 entitled FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS.

Examples of some comments follow:

- Overall members were concerned that cost figures in the report are very preliminary estimates and cannot be applied to projects as reliable or accurate. The cost estimates can only be used for order of magnitude comparisons to illustrate which project costs are larger or smaller.

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- Redistricting studies are directionally correct, but again not precise delineations of school district lines and a statement to that effect needs to be inserted.
- Possibly shorten up the executive summary;
- Or if not, change the title of the section;
- On P 38 explain why we selected an alternative which was not the least expensive;
- Reorder the operating costs section and the capital costs section with the latter coming first;
- With regard to the explanation of the increase in the student population, mention growth of the number of professional jobs nearby at the medical schools and the universities. Also review the latest Phelke report , *Brookline's Changing Households*, on Brookline's population dynamics;
- Include Heath and Baker schools in comments about the placement of district wide programs.
- With regard to the issue of redistricting, create a separate section for this material since the outcomes were so influential regarding the decisions the Committee made.

Ms. Stone indicated that she would be adding a table of contents and links to various electronic data located elsewhere in the Town or School websites and a link to the new report, *Brookline's Changing Households*.

Mr. Sandman agreed to compress chart on p. 38 and revise to simplify it and provide the revision by Tuesday AM.

Ms. Stone agreed to create a new draft of the report to be sent out to the School Committee within 24 hours.

The Committee deputized a sub-committee of Ms. Stone. Ms. DeWitt and Mr. Morse to then do the editing necessary to produce the final report. Prior to public distribution the Committee will be given time to examine the proposed final version.

A Motion to approve the draft report, subject to final review by a committee of Alan Morse, Betsy DeWitt and Rebecca Stone was passed unanimously.

The Final B-SPACE Report will be posted prominently on the School Committee, Town, and B-SPACE web pages.

Meeting adjourned 7:20 PM