

**Minutes  
of the  
Runkle School Renovations and Additions  
Community Public Meeting  
15 June 2009, 7:00 p.m.  
Runkle School Library, 50 Druce Street**

In Attendance: Nancy Daly, Board of Selectmen, Ken Goldstein, Board of Selectmen, Helen Charlupski, School Committee, Judy Meyers, School Committee, Henry Warren, School Committee, Glenn Cunha, School Committee, Susan Wolf Ditkoff, School Committee, Barbara Scotto, School Committee, Ken Kaplan, Building Commission, Bill Lupini, Superintendent of Schools, Peter Rowe, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Tony Guigli, Project Director, Gregg Schroeder, Design Partnership of Cambridge (DPC), Bob Bell (DPC), David Warner, Warner Larson, Silpa Munukutha, Judith Nitsch Engineering, members of community and parents of students

*Meeting called to order by Helen Charlupski*

G. Schroeder provided introductory comments on behalf of DPC. B. Bell then presented the various options that were studied along with the advantages and disadvantages of each.

G. Schroeder discussed zoning and permit issues. Building height as far as the zoning by-law is concerned can be calculated in three different ways. In the opinion of DPC, the current design does not trigger a variance no matter which way the height is calculated. To confirm this, DPC is having additional survey work done to get true, engineered calculations on this issue. Zoning regulations require three loading docks, the current design has only one. Providing the required parking on site is not feasible.

S. Munukutha of Judith Nitsch Engineering then presented the findings of the traffic study and recommendations. The plan calls for making Druce Street and Chesham Street one way all of the time, allowing for a permanent drop off lane and handicapped parking on Druce Street. The intersections of Druce and Dean and Druce, Chesham and Buckminster would be rebuilt to include “neck downs” as both a traffic calming measure and to allow for shorter cross walks. Permit parking for approximately 95 cars would be permitted on one side of Druce, Buckminster and Dean Streets and on both sides of Clinton and Chesham Streets. The plan also eliminates the existing 17 on-site parking spaces.

It was noted these are recommendations only. The issue of traffic and parking is expected to be considered by the Transportation Board at their meetings of June 25 and July 16, 2009.

A lengthy question and answer and public comment session then ensued. Comments and concerns were raised on the traffic and parking recommendations, building height and

massing, amount of “green space” lost to the planned enlargement of the building, and to the schedule of meetings.

B. Bell spoke to height and massing noting that the design is still in its very early stages and the design team is working diligently to address these concerns within budget, site and programmatic constraints.

D. Warner spoke to the green space and site issues as to possibilities of play equipment, terracing, landscaping, etc. again noting the very preliminary stage of design the project is in and that changes are likely as the design progresses.

H. Charlupski and B. Lupini spoke to enrollment issues, the reasons for renovating Runkle and to overall Brookline School needs and growth Town-wide.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Guigli, Project Director