



Respectful, Responsible, Safe & Prepared

BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2021 – 5:30 p.m.

Waupaca High School Community Room and [Live Stream](#)

Welcome and Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson Steve Klismet at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: All members of the Committee were present (Chairperson Steve Klismet, Dale Feldt, and Steve Hackett). Additionally, Board members Stephen Johnson, Betty Manion, Mark Polebitski, and Patrick Phair were present.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Ron Saari, Sandy Lucas, Carl Hayek, Matt Vassar, and Trevor Leopold.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Steve Hackett and seconded by Dale Feldt to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Review of Board Meeting Norms:

The Board reviewed their collective commitments.

Haberkorn Field Press Box Idea:

Board member Patrick Phair advised that the City of Waupaca has offered the former Haberkorn Field press box to the School District free of charge or they will tear it down to make way for a new public works building. He advised that he met with the Chain Exploration Center (CEC) Governance Council (GC) where they expressed an interest in the building if it isn't too costly to move and set up on the CEC's property. It would possibly be used as a classroom, a storage building for the garden, or a pavilion type building for the garden. The CEC GC requested that Mr. Phair bring this to the Board for consideration.

Director of Business Services Carl Hayek reminded the Committee that approximately four years ago it was determined that the entire bleacher system, which included the press box, at Haberkorn Field was not compliant with safety standards and deemed unsafe, so the District built a new athletic complex and sold Haberkorn Field to the City of Waupaca. Mr. Hayek advised that administration has no interest in the press box and no one from the CEC has discussed this idea with District administration.

Committee member Dale Feldt believes this should have been brought to the CEC GC first to see if they in fact want the building. He doesn't believe the building is feasible to be used as a classroom. In addition, he believes the building will require additional repairs which would not be cost effective, and the District will continue to incur costs for the maintenance of the building.

Committee Chairperson Steve Klismet agreed that it could involve unforeseen costs, but added that possibly we could educate our students with a building project by involving some WHS students.

After much discussion, it was suggested that the District find out if the CEC in fact wants the building, and if they do, have Building and Grounds Supervisor Matt Vassar take a look at it to determine if it is viable, and then go from there regarding costs and other details.

Mr. Hayek also reminded the Committee to keep in mind how we want our buildings and grounds to look to prospective parents/students in order to attract new families to the CEC/District.

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Steve Klismet to not move the building to the Chain Exploration Center (and to not table this matter for further discussion), but instead the full Board and the CEC GC should have a discussion about a new and better project for the CEC. The motion carried on a 2-1 roll call vote, with Dale Feldt and Steve Klismet voting yes, and Steve Hackett voting no. So this matter will not go to the full Board. Mr. Feldt advised that this Building and Grounds Committee will contact the CEC GC.

Board member Mark Polebitski questioned this procedure, and Board President Stephen Johnson confirmed that the Committee is not recommending anything to go to the Board, so there will be no further action by the Board at this time. If the CEC asks for it, they can bring this topic forward to the Board for discussion.

Soccer Field Parking Lot and Idea of Pavement / Soccer Field Bathroom/Storage Facility Idea:

Board members Patrick Phair and Mark Polebitski advised that not having a paved parking lot at the soccer field, but more importantly not having restrooms and water there has been a huge problem for many years. Mr. Polebitski added that this project keeps getting pushed aside and he now wants the Board to make a commitment to start putting money away for it and start planning for it.

Mr. Hayek reminded the Committee that these items were discussed and acted on at the May 21, 2021, Board meeting. In addition, he advised that since the facilities would be used by the City leagues (WIAA sanctioned leagues use the athletic complex), it would require a collaborative effort to seek alternative funding sources for these projects and no one has taken the initiative to begin a fundraising event. He added that the District's own infrastructure, especially the safety renovations, are the most pressing concerns right now which are in alignment with the Strategic Plan, specifically the long term infrastructure plan. He noted that the bathroom facility is in the long term infrastructure plan which helps us keep our eye on it; we just don't have the money for it at this time.

Committee Chairperson Klismet expressed that he has a hard time spending money right now on projects that don't help better educate our students or assist our teachers, as there are many updates needed in the schools to help educate our students.

After much discussion, Committee member Feldt advised that he will talk to the City. In addition, Board President Johnson requested the Finance Committee and Mr. Hayek to look at possible scenarios of putting money in Fund 49 to build for the future. But Mr. Hayek reiterated that now more than ever any additional funds need to go into safety, as we will probably exceed the \$1 million for the entryway safety renovation projects; the safety of our students, staff, and stakeholders is our priority.

Middle School Tennis Court Idea:

Board member Phair advised that he and several members of the community, as well as our new tennis club, use the tennis courts at the Middle School and he is asking, on behalf of the community, for some minor repairs to be completed, such as power washing the courts (no need to resurface), adjust the fencing, replace light bulbs (no need to replace the lights), and add pickleball lines, all at an approximate cost of less than \$10,000.

Because members of the public mostly use the tennis courts at the Middle School, not the students, Mr. Hayek reiterated that, in alignment with the District's long term maintenance infrastructure plan, maintenance of the District's own infrastructure components are a higher priority. However, he did advise that the District has agreed to paint pickleball lines on a few courts this spring.

Mr. Vassar advised that no work requests have been received from teachers, just community members and Mr. Phair asking one of the maintenance people that the repairs be completed. He added that he will post a sign indicating when the tennis season ends and, therefore, when the nets will be taken down so the public is aware.

Since this as well as the other items on this agenda have been things also involving the City of Waupaca, Committee member Feldt suggested that he, Mr. Vassar, Mr. Hayek, and Director of Co-Curricular Activities/Athletics Trevor Leopold go to the City to work with them on these items.

Committee Chairperson Klismet again reiterated his feelings that we need to get back to focusing on education, not all the extra things; we've lost focus.

Several Board members also suggested that linkage meetings with Board members, administration, teachers, and staff should be scheduled to help achieve our goals.

Process to Bring Building and Grounds Concerns to Committee:

Committee member Feldt outlined the process and considerations to be made when wanting to bring a topic to committee, which just reaffirms current policy so no motion is needed.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Dale Feldt and seconded by Steve Hackett to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.