

Public Building Commission
Special Meeting: 3/30/17
Location: Branford Fire Headquarters
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

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2017 APR -4 P 4: 23

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Building Committee Members Present:

Peter Banca
James Killelea
Marcia Palluzzi
Bob Barnett
Leonard Tamsin, Jr.

Other Attendees:

Michael Krause	BOE Chair
Jamie Cosgrove	First Selectman
Scott Pellman	Colliers International
Michael LoSasso	Antinozzi Associates
Greg Plasil	Fusco Corporation
Chris Toussaint	Fusco Corporation
Raeann Reynolds	Walsh Principle Designee

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by Chairman Peter Banca.

I. Walsh Project Design Update – Antinozzi and Associates – Paul Antinozzi presented the design:

- Mr Antinozzi discussed the original program and site constraints which dictated the general placement of the building. The Superintendent had envisioned 4 learning clusters for the grades that the architect incorporated into the design. The design concept was a solution that fit boxes together with the existing facility and the architect felt that the new and old spoke the same language.
- Mr Antinozzi then presented some suggestions starting with the building approach that included an expanded canopy that comes out to meet the drop off with additional green space and plantings.
- The façade, was an abstract interpretation of a building across town. The panels are proposed to be scored to 12x36 pieces organized horizontally. A new exterior design was presented that went back to the notion of the colored blocks appearing more like shutters and have softened the interpretation. Changing the base to brick was presented and the discussion was opened up to the committee for comment.

II. Committee comments:

- Patterning of windows was discussed and whether they should be oriented vertically or horizontally below the academic box and in the existing brick at the administration area. The committee felt that the brick base embraces the box. Possibly add a second smaller canopy at the secondary entrance. Could the design team look at adding skylights to the long corridors? The design team noted that the corridor by music has been broken up utilizing changes in the wall, ceiling and lighting configuration. The committee likes the virtual parapet rail that was value engineered out in the SD estimate which has been re-introduced by the design team.
- Revisions could be ready for the next regularly scheduled meeting on the 10th as follows:
 1. Brick base with horizontal windows below academic box
 2. Brick base with vertical windows below academic box
 3. Introduction of the panel system at the secondary entrance
 4. Introduction of a smaller canopy at the secondary entrance
 5. Introduction of something to break up the academic mass

III. Public Comments:

- Mr. Peter Jackson - Why have a three-story school when we have an interior campus that is more modern and is a classic building. It has only one flaw, teachers don't like teaching in it. The existing building has more exterior wall and the team could create an interior courtyard. The building would be in the same place. The proposed plan has corridors that are very long and not very wide with classrooms looking out at parking lots with a corridor down the middle that doesn't lead to anything. You could save a beautiful-beautiful school. I am not opposed to the design but the existing school is a treasure.
- Mr. Steve Mazzacane– In covering this there has been a logical step for everything that has been done and I have heard more complaints about the existing school than I can count. I have one significant question, can you place a canopy where the seniors enter the pool with some signage, highlight the after-hours entrance.
- Mr. Jamie Cosgrove – There was a feasibility study that explored multiple concepts and for a number of reasons the current option was selected. The State came down to physically visit the building and recognized the challenges. There has been a great deal of thought that has gone into the design approach. The reduced footprint will also support additional parking that was called for in the Educational Specifications and better supports the fields.

The next scheduled meeting will take place on April 10, 2017 at 7:00 pm at the Fire House

Motion to adjourn by Jamie Cosgrove, second by Marcia Palluzzi - Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Submitted by Peter Banca