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TOWN HALL  
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## **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 3, 2016 MILLER-DRISCOLL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

**Building Committee members present:** Steve DiNapoli, Dick Dubow, Glenn Hemmerle, Gretchen Jeanes, John Kalamarides, Jim Newton, John Murphy, Ray Tobiassen, Rick Tomasetti, Lynne Vanderslice (First Selectman, ex-officio member)

**Committee Advisors present:** Chris Burney (Director of Facilities and Energy Management), Jeremy Cross (MD Assistant Principal)

**Absent:** Patti Temple

**Guests:** Randall Luther and Susan Pinckney (TSKP), Mike Douyard and Ty Tregallas (Turner Construction), Rita Garland

**Members of the public:** Mandi Schmauch, Joanne Lussier, Patricia Kohler, Yvonne Fielden, Samita Sidhu and one other MD parent, Jeanette Ross (Wilton Bulletin)

The meeting was called to order by Assistant Chair Glen Hemmerle.

### **Approval of Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2016 Miller-Driscoll Building Committee meeting was made by Jim Newton, seconded by Ray Tobiassen and passed.

### **Committee Appointments**-Chris Burney

There are three candidates being considered for one opening on the committee. An appointment is expected by the next MDBC meeting.

### **Project Update**-Chris Burney

Via an initial email to the MDBC (copy attached), it was announced Tuesday that the construction schedule will be modified and internal asbestos abatement will not be done during the April 2016 break as originally planned but performed in June, after the school year ends. The decision was made in order to help alleviate some parents' concerns about the abatement process and because the change would not adversely affect the schedule or budget.

A lengthy discussion regarding the decision included:

Final 4.5.16

Jim Newton disagreed with the decision and stated he did not think it wise to move the schedule because of those who may never be happy with it. Rick Tomasetti supported the decision and asked how the decision was made. Glenn Hemmerle, John Kalamarides and Dick Dubow disagreed with the timing and manner of the decision, believing that the entire committee should have been involved in determining if there should be a schedule change and questioned why the decision could not have waited until Thursday's MDBC meeting.

Chris explained that he and Turner had been reevaluating the schedule for some time and Lynne Vanderslice explained that the final decision was made following multiple discussions with Turner, TRC and others and that the postponement was the conclusion reached by Turner and Chris at the weekly Owner's workgroup (Owner, Architect & Turner meeting) meeting on Tuesday. Lynne reminded the committee that Chris has construction responsibility for the town and MDBC, as well as day to day decision making authority. There was some discussion, but no resolution, regarding the decision-making responsibilities of the MDBC as a whole.

Lynne also explained that while it had been originally planned for the decision to be discussed at the MDBC meeting before being shared with the community, the posting of some parents' concerns to social media and the increase in requests to postpone abatement escalated to the degree that delaying the announcement would have been detrimental to the thoughtful resolution the town was seeking.

#### **Architect's Report** - Randall Luther and Susan Pinckney

The finished building will have clerestory glass rather than skylights, and colored "kites" will be installed at points on the roof that will serve as exterior elements of the school's colorful wayfinding design.

Inside, VCT flooring will be in two tone gray and each pod will have a "landing pad" of a different color, with colored bars outside the perimeter of the landing pads pointing in the direction of the pod that shares the color of the bars. Hallway walls will also include directional colored bars. A multi-gray Powerbond carpeting is currently designated for classrooms.

Accent walls will be painted throughout the school, with the colors coordinating with the area of the building where they are located and each classroom will have a window with a pane of colored glass that coordinates with the pod where it is located.

Classroom millwork will be maple and counter tops around sinks will be a post formed plastic laminate that has a nice finished edge.

Joanne Lussier asked if the Wilton Security Task Force was engaged to consider labeling the pods' exteriors with color. John Murphy (also a task force member) said that while the task force worked extensively with the MDBC in the planning stages, that was not something discussed. It was pointed out that the colored rooftop "kites" are a means to locate pods while outside and from a distance.

#### **Construction Manager Report** (presentation attached)– Mike Douyard:

Recent progress includes:

- Concrete foundations approximately 50% complete
- Demolition completed at Miller and Driscoll connections
- Underground utilities completed in pre-k wing

March activity includes:

- Start structural steel
- Pour slab in Pre-K
- Relocate access road

Storm water runoff:

- 2-24-16 rainstorm brought 1.57" of rain in less than 24 hours
- Six erosion control breaches
- Repairs made and additional silt fence, hay bales and stone check dams installed
- Environmental Affairs requested some precautionary measures and will monitor the site regularly

Critical schedule planning includes:

- Roof and exterior shell installation begins in April
- Planning with MD administration for summer renovation
- Moving company bids have been received
- Project schedule is being re-evaluated.

Budget update:

- Budget \$50,022,000
- Committed costs \$39,547,714
- Balance Remaining \$10,474,286

Public Outreach:

- Parent Committee meeting 3-15-16
- Steel beams to be decorated with students' handprints

Teachers and students are very happy with the temporary classrooms.

Sound blankets will be removed from classroom windows during April break and can be put back up if there are subsequent noise issues.

Due to multiple large construction projects in town this summer, the Wilton Building Department has suggested that an outside building inspector be hired to ensure the project's inspections are completed in a timely manner.

### **Project Audit – Rita Garland**

Rita is a volunteer working with the town Finance department and Turner to ensure that state audit procedures for the project are understood, followed and all required documents provided. She, Wilton CFO Anne Kelly-Lenz and Turner Construction and TSKP representatives have had two meetings with the state to review procedures, qualifying reimbursement items, change order processing and other topics.

There has been no grant approval yet for the MD project, but it is expected by midnight May 4, 2016. Wilton should receive its first reimbursement funds this July. Payment of these funds can be requested every 60 days.

### **Finance Subcommittee – Rick Tomasetti**

The invoice approval process was explained:

Final 4.5.16

- Turner receives and reviews invoices.
- TSKP certifies payment requests.
- Turner presents payment requests to MDBC Finance Subcommittee.
- Finance Subcommittee vets requests.
- MDBC reviews requests, recommends for payment and forwards to the BOS.

### **Public comment**

Patricia Kohler stated she arrived at the meeting optimistic believing “that when you moved the abatement to the summer you heard our concerns,” but after listening to committee members at the meeting she said, “it sounds like you think those concerns are silly.” She also expressed frustration with not getting information as quickly as she would like, including what hazardous materials are in classrooms, what abatement is going to be done, and test results before students return to school following abatement activity. Lynne explained that because they have an attorney representing them, she and other town officials are prohibited from speaking directly to Mr. and Mrs. Kohler.

Yvonne Fielden echoed Patricia Kohler’s concerns, adding that the difficulty in obtaining information has, in turn, created doubt and suspicion. She also thanked the committee for delaying the April abatement.

Mandi Schmauch thanked Chris and Lynne for delaying the April abatement and also requested that the TSKP samples and rendering be shared on the MDBP web site.

### **Other comments**

The committee briefly discussed holding another meeting for parents before the end of the school year, similar to the October 14, 2015 meeting and presentation. Further discussion will follow.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Next meeting: April 7, 2016

Additional meeting dates can be found at <http://millerdriscollrenovations.weebly.com/>

A video of this meeting may be viewed at <http://www.screencast.com/t/XZWgh0dpe> .

Submitted by

Patti Temple, Secretary

*Minutes taken via meeting video.*