

# Berkeley Unified School District

## FACILITIES PLANNING DEPARTMENT

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Draft Minutes of the Meeting of June 12, 2014

Members Present: Stephanie Allan Carl Bridgers Susi Marzuola Eric Weaver Nicolie Bolster-Ott  
Allen Nudel

Staff Present: Lew Jones, Director of Facilities Chanita Stevenson, Administrative Coordinator

1. *Call to Order:* The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.
2. *Public Comments:* There were no public comments.
3. *Approval of Meeting Minutes:* Secretary Weaver moved to approve the minutes. Member Bolster-Ott seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
4. *Staff Report*

### Project Updates

- **Berkeley High School:** The project is going well. There were some problems installing the new fence related to utilities but it has been resolved. The replanting of the trees on Channing is currently being discussed with the contractor.
- **Jefferson:** Jefferson is still on track. They have a new job superintendent. The interior work on the areas within the current building still needs work. The library does not have enough shelves. Additional shelving has been ordered. Our next meeting will be held at Jefferson.
- **Board Room/REALM and Hopkins:** We are finalizing these projects. We hope to go to the Board on the June 25<sup>th</sup> for acceptance.
- **Pre-K Expansion Project:** This project is going well. The modular buildings will be delivered next week. The underground utilities are complete.
- **Longfellow Cafeteria:** This project is still at DSA. We are waiting for feedback.

- **Upcoming Modernization Projects:** Videos were completed for the upcoming modernization projects. The Board approved John Muir, Willard and King Gym last night. We invited the Design Review Subcommittee to these presentations but they were unable to attend. Presentations for BHS Donahue Gym and LeConte Modernization will be held on Monday. The Design Review Subcommittee will be invited to attend. These projects will go to the Board for approval on June 25, 2014.
- **Berkeley High School Donahue Gym:** Staff provided additional information on this upcoming project. He noted that Member Bridgers has been involved in the project. Major changes in the project include modifying the main entry to Donahue and design changes to create an area for referees. The proposed plan will make the south side of the building the main entry for Donahue gym events. The site is also interested in remodeling the home locker room. Member Bridgers questioned if the architect balanced the fixture account in the two new locker rooms. Staff will confirm.
- Staff explained that currently there is no funding for exterior improvements of the Donahue gym in the base scope of work in the budget. However, we discussed hiring the architects to design exterior improvements of the building. At the schematic approval phase, Staff can go to Board to request an increase in budget to do the following things as a part of the base scope of work to do the following:
  - a. Redo the South Side to create a main entry
  - b. Clad the exterior of the building
  - c. Establish entrances on both sides of the gym and have the south side look similar to the stadium building
  - d. Paint the building

At a future Board meeting, the Board can decide to increase the budget by an additional \$300,000 to deal with the other entrances of the building. He estimates this would add construction costs of \$500,000. Member Nudel asked if this would come from unused bond funds, which it will be.

**Questions/Comments related to the Staff report**

- Member Bolster-Ott had a question related to Washington and portables being used as classrooms.
  - a. Staff replied that there has been a lot of discussion around the number of students we have District wide. He noted that Thousand Oaks has not had a flex room in some time and Washington has maintained a

flex room. Washington is predicted to have two flex rooms next year since we are adding a seventh portable. The Superintendent or Associate Superintendent may look at creating an additional class at Washington due to increased enrollment.

b. Staff explained different options of how to alleviate capacity. The District could eliminate all flex rooms. A Pre-K site could be used to house transitional K students. Portables may be added to accommodate students. Another option would be to increase class size since the State no longer pays Districts to reduce class size to 20:1. The District is devoting general fund money to subsidize the smaller class size of 20:1 versus 24:1.

- Secretary Weaver announced that he saw a flyer regarding a BHS Open House. He is strong advocate of open houses. The date is Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Secretary Weaver complained that the Hopkins side of the running track at King Middle School looks horrible. The weeds are tall and dry. Staff said he would have Maintenance take care of the area. Co-Chair Allan also suggested vector control for this area.
- Member Bolster-Ott commented that the old Longfellow Garden looks bad. Staff noted that he is waiting on an answer from the Principal related to the garden.

5. *Discussion related to the Design of the BHS Donahue Gym*

- Member Bridgers reported to the Committee that the revised scope of the building grew out of the building looking awful compared to newly completed buildings. Originally, the project was a solar and maintenance project to update systems.
- The site committee pushed the architect to create additional ideas related to usage of the building and to develop a comprehensive plan to integrate it into the campus. Staff wanted a focus on the entry ways. The East wall needs to work well with the new courtyard. The West wall is large and it has a Track Hall of Fame sign. Member Bridgers explained that all sides of the building each have their own separate needs. There were also discussions about keeping the campus secure. Modifications to the current front of the building (facing Bancroft Way) is restricted because of the property line. Additional items were discussed at the site committee meetings included creating a ticket office, a new space for referees (originally was a part of the BOC which was demolished), and safety features related to crowd control inside of the gym.

- The Committee is in agreement with the direction that this project is moving. Member Bridgers added that the South Side gate will become the entry point for all athletic events.
- Co-Chair Allan suggested the Committee should follow up in October and November about this project once the design is further developed.
- Secretary Weaver wanted to make sure that the Board understands that not reviewing the appearance of Donahue Gym may be detrimental to other projects surrounding it.
- Co-Chair Allan stated further that Staff should note that the Design Review Subcommittee has been involved and that a concern was raised about the effect that Donahue has on the campus.

6. *Committee Member Comments:*

- Member Bolster-Ott heard that there were ADA issues concerning the operation of the Community Theater. She asked if the District planned to encourage use of the theater. Staff answered that there is nothing keeping the theater from being used and if there are any concerns to contact him.
- Co-Chair Allan had a comment about the theater as well. She spoke with the local representative for IATSE Local 107 and their plans to volunteer this summer to help the new manager clean up the theater. Co-Chair Allan told them to contact Staff and the Interim BHS Facilities Manager for information. Staff noted that it will be challenging to access the site this summer because of various summer projects on campus.
- Member Bridgers asked, “How has Derby Field performed?” Staff answered that the field has done okay. It has had some issues with partial browning of the field and Maintenance is reviewing the irrigation and fertilizing schedule.
- Co-Chair Marzuola asked about an update on a group interested on using an area of Derby field for soccer. Staff noted that there was interest from an organized soccer group to use the MLK side of the field. Staff asked Co-Chair Marzuola to check with neighbors to see if this would cause conflicts related to access. The community feedback was positive and they welcome kids using the field. Staff is having struggles getting an answer from BHS related to their usage in order to determine if we will be able to rent to this group.
- Member Nudel stated that soccer usage at King has ruined the new field. Staff responded that he will refer this issue over to the Maintenance Division.

7. *Reports from the Subcommittee*

- There were no reports from the committees.

8. *Future Meeting Date:*

- Our next meeting will be held at Jefferson Elementary on August 28<sup>th</sup>.

9. *Adjournment:*

- The meeting adjourned at 6:58 PM.