



THE GLOUCESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2 BLACKBURN DRIVE
GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS 01930

TEL: 978-281-9800
FAX: 978-281-9899
WWW.GLOUCESTERSCHOOLS.COM

East Gloucester/Veterans' Memorial Elementary School Building Committee

Thursday, October 3, 2019
4:30 pm
District Office Conference Room
2 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A. To consider the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A. Approval of East Gloucester Building Committee Minutes of September 26, 2019
- B. Approval of East Gloucester Communications Sub-Committee Minutes of September 19, 2019

IV. REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION/NEW BUSINESS/ACTION

- A. Review/Approval of project invoices
- B. Update from CBRE Heering and Dore and Whittier
- C. Review/discuss issues brought up at the Building Committee meeting of September 26, 2019
- D. Items that were not reasonably anticipated by the Chairperson, in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 30A, Section 18-25

V. ACTION

- A. Vote for preferred site location
- B. Vote on decision made in Executive Session

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The listing of matters is those reasonably anticipated by the Chair which may be discussed at the meeting. Not all items may in fact be discussed and other items not listed may also be brought up for discussion to the extent permitted by law.

East Gloucester School Building Committee Communication Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 19, 2019
District Office Conference Room
2 Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930
3:00 p.m.

Members Present

Kathy Clancy, Chairperson
Dr. Richard Safier
Amy Pasquarello
Aria McElhenny

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chairperson Clancy called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m.

II. **REPORTS/DELIBERATIONS/DISCUSSION/NEW BUSINESS**

- A. **Community Outreach** – Chairperson Clancy reported that she and Ms. McElhenny submitted information to the *Gloucester Daily Times* about the two sites that were chosen and the public informational meeting scheduled for September 23rd, which was not included in Ray Lamont's article published on Tuesday. Ms. McElhenny indicated that she posted the information on the project website. She also noted that she has been putting together an email list of people who have expressed interest in the project and is sharing information with them when it is posted to the website.

There was a discussion about adding links in the answers to questions posted on the website. Ms. McElhenny noted that one question that keeps coming up is why the committee did not look at any other sites. It was suggested that a question be added to the website, namely what other sites were considered, together with the answer and why those sites were eliminated. Those sites were Swinson's Field, Harrison Avenue, The Pines, and the site on Eastern Avenue at the Rockport line, which is all city-owned land located in an area that would serve the population of the students. It was noted that all of those sites were discussed in early meetings of the School Building Committee (SBC), the SBC conducted site visits to all of them, and there were access and utility issues with all of them, among other things.

The committee discussed the format for the informational meeting to be held on September 23rd, which they stated not a public hearing. Dr. Safier indicated that he will be the moderator and suggested handing out index cards and pencils at the door for people to write down a question. Someone on the committee would then need to review and sort the questions and look for multiple copies of the same question. If anyone has a follow-up question, they could submit another index card.

Dr. Safier indicated that he will present a slide show that includes the origins of the site selection and why the choices went from nine sites to two. Following the slide show, the questions that have already been submitted on the website would be answered, and then

any questions received at the meeting. There was a discussion about who would answer the questions, and Chairperson Clancy expressed the importance of including more committee members to have their voices heard.

Dr. Safier noted that Jonathan Pope has a photograph of the Joseph Mattos dedication, which says Joseph Mattos **Playground**.

The committee reviewed the questions already submitted on the website and other questions to be added, as well as the answers. Dr. Safier indicated that he will compile all of the questions and answers into a shared document for the full committee.

With respect to what will happen to the vacant building(s), the demolition of which is included in the project, Ms. McElhenny reported that Marblehead formed a committee to make a recommendation to the city on what should happen with the vacant buildings. Dr. Safier suggested the possibility of the SBC and/or School Committee making a recommendation to the city that such a committee be formed.

Ms. Pasquarello indicated that she would like to include some updated information on the new school in her PowerPoint presentation on Meet the Teacher Night on September 26th. Chairperson Clancy noted that there is an SBC meeting that day at 5:00 p.m. Dr. Safier indicated that there will be no votes taken regarding the site at that meeting.

There was a discussion about having people write letters to the editor in support of the new school and/or posting their support on Facebook. Chairperson Clancy noted the importance of engaging people who do not currently have kids in school.

Finally, Ms. McElhenny reported that Marblehead had a “Vote Yes” campaign for their new consolidated elementary school and indicated that she will reach out to some local people about leading such a campaign here.

III. ACTION – None.

IV. ADJOURNMENT – On a motion by Ms. Pasquarello, seconded by Ms. McElhenny, it was unanimously

VOTED: 4 in favor, 0 opposed to adjourn the East Gloucester Communication Subcommittee meeting of September 19, 2019 at 4:10 p.m.