ZERVAS SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE (ZSBC) & DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) JOINT MEETING

MEETING MINUTES

Newton Ed Center, Room 210	APPROVED 6/23/16
March 31, 2016	
6:00 PM	



ATTENDEES:

NAME	ZSBC	PRESENT	NAME	ASSOCIATION	PRESENT
Diana Beck	ZSBC	Υ	Peter Barrer	DRC	N
Arthur Cohen	ZSBC, DRC	Υ	William Eldredge	DRC	N
Deb Crossley (Alderman)	ZSBC, DRC	Y	Robert Franchi	DRC	N
Diana Fisher Gomberg	ZSBC	Y	Tom Gloria	DRC	N
David Fleishman	ZSBC	N	James Freas	DRC	N
Ruthanne Fuller (Alderman)	ZSBC	Y	Jonathan Kantar	DRC	Y
Sandra Guryan	ZSBC, DRC	N	Andrea Kelley	DRC	N
Maureen Lemieux (CFO)	ZSBC	N	Ellen Light	DRC	Y
Joshua Morse (NPB)	ZSBC, DRC	N	Marc Resnick	DRC	N
Chris Neal	ZSBC	N	Eve Tapper	DRC	Υ
Nicholas Read	ZSBC	N	Caroline Wilson	DRC	Y
John Rice (Alderman)	ZSBC	Y	Dawn Flemming	NPD	Y
Margie Ross Decter	ZSBC	N	Jeffery Luxenberg	NV5/JLA	Y
Steven Siegel	ZSBC, DRC	Y	Tom Murphy	NV5/JLA	Y
Anne Snelling Lee	ZSBC	Y	Melissa Gagnon	NV5/JLA	N
Setti Warren, Mayor	ZSBC	N	Robert Bell	DPC	N
Dori Zaleznik	ZSBC	N	Joe Drown	DPC	Y
Julie Kirrane	NPS	Y	Jon Rich	WTR	Y
Mike Cronin	NPS	Y	Steve Farr	JNE	Y
Alex Valcarce	NPB	Y	Jeff Bandini	JNE	Y
Ouida Young (Law Dept)	CITY	Y	Jonathan Yeo	ZWG	N

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

1. Approval of Minutes from the November 12, 2015 ZSBC+DRC Joint Meeting

MOTION: D. Fisher Gomberg moved, seconded by D. Beck, that the November 12, 2015 meeting minutes be approved. **The vote was unanimous in favor (8-0-0).**

2. Project Update

Construction Update

The team gave an update of the construction progress to date noting that rammed aggregate piers (RAP) installation had begun with very little disruption or complaints from the neighbors. In response to a question from J. Kantar, J. Rich (WTR) reported that the RAP installation did not produce any additional information about soil conditions to evaluate a ground source heat pump system.

Design Update

J. Drown (PE) showed images of the Beethoven Ave façade with the minor revisions recommended by Committee members at the last meeting. The elevation revised areas of metal panel and brick, colors of brick and introduced some banding to more effectively break up the composition of the elevation. Committee members generally indicated that the new elevation was a great improvement on the previously presented scheme. Direction would be given to the contractors to proceed with this latest version. There was some discussion about the lighting in the stair tower and the design team and NPS noted that lights could be controlled on a lighting control system so they would not disturb the neighbors at unoccupied times.

Traffic Update

S. Farr (JNE) presented three concepts for traffic on Beethoven Ave. One showing a blue zone on Beethoven extending nearly to Beacon Street. A second showing the blue zone to an area near the entry walk to the school and a third showing a blue zone extending to the same location but with a right turn lane extending from just after the blue zone to Beacon Street. The reconstruction of the curbing and crosswalks at the Beethoven/Beacon intersection was also reviewed. Officer D. Flemming reported that the crossing guard was anticipated to be stationed in the middle of the intersection during drop off and pick up. It was noted that there would be an upcoming presentation to the Waban Area Council concerning traffic.

2. ZSBC + DRC Comment

Various Committee members discussed the efforts to encourage parents and children walking to school. It was also discussed that the new construction would be an opportunity to educate the building users and alter existing behaviors to establish better habits. The Committee discussed various design elements and how they might be used to better control traffic. It was noted that all of these potential elements were under review by the City's traffic group with the consultants to develop a final proposed solution.

It was also noted that there are traffic issues on other streets adjacent to the school and the traffic issue should be looked at as a whole. The WAC meeting should address a larger view of the traffic condition than merely Beethoven and Beacon. Multiple design elements

3. Public Comment

Sally Lipshutz commented that perhaps there was a need for a new philosophy and new ideas such as no blue zone and remote parking down the street from the school

Alicia Bowman, from Safe Routes to School, suggested there was a risk of a child being dropped off in the middle lane and the new configuration was less safe for the crossing guard. She suggested the curb condition remain as it currently exists.

4. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Murphy NV5/JLA

[End of 03/31/16 Meeting Minutes]