

## **BHS New Build Committee Meeting**

**Sunday, March 5, 2023**

Hope Bonanno called the meeting to order at 4:15pm. Committee members present included Hope Bonanno, Jerry Bonanno, Katie Routzahn, Brad Eye, Sarah Fogle, and City Council Member Angel White. Committee members Jamee Robinson, Michiko Jarrett, Veronica Hatch, and City Council Member Vaughn Ripley were not present. Interested stakeholders present were Jacob Winter (BHS student), Katie Riley, and Kerri Thiede.

Introductions– Mrs. Bonanno called the meeting to order, and the Committee members and interested stakeholders introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes from Feb. 5, 2023 Committee Meeting – Mrs. Bonanno confirmed all Committee members had received the draft meeting minutes from the Feb. 5, 2023 meeting. Mr. Eye made a motion that the minutes be approved. Mrs. Routzan seconded the motion. All Committee members present voted “aye.” The minutes were approved.

Discussion of Vice Chair Position – Mrs. Bonanno inquired whether anyone present was interested in filling the role of Committee Vice Chair. With no volunteers, the Committee discussed potentially eliminating the Vice Chair position. The Committee decided to leave the position vacant and allow additional time for Committee members to consider volunteering.

Updates and New Developments –

- Future Committee Meetings: Mr. Bonanno informed the attendees that the Committee had received permission to use the City Hall meeting room for future meetings. The Committee members discussed the advantages of using the City Hall meeting room for future meetings. The Committee discussed the idea of hosting an information session during one of its future meetings to better inform the public of the Committee’s efforts and garner additional community support. The Committee decided to host the first information session at the Committee meeting scheduled for Sunday April 2, 2023.
- Meeting with State Delegates: Mrs. Bonanno briefed the Committee on a meeting earlier in the week with State Delegate Jesse Pippy and staff of Delegates April Miller and Barry Ciliberti. The meeting was attended by Brunswick Mayor Nathan Brown, Middletown Burgess Miller, as well as Mr. and Mrs. Bonanno. The purpose of the meeting was to raise awareness of the need to expedite the replacement of BHS among the State Delegation. Mrs. Bonanno informed the Committee that a letter was being drafted from Mayor Brown, Burgess Miller, and Mrs. Bonanno to the District 4 Delegates.
- Improvements to Communications: Mrs. Riley discussed several ideas for development of communications products to help raise awareness, as well as ideas to better leverage the Committee’s Facebook page.
- Status of Requests to FCPS: Mr. Bonanno informed the Committee that he had not received responses to either the pending Public Information Act request, or the request for a meeting with FCPS Central Office staff to discuss prioritizing the BHS replacement project.

Discussion of Capital Projects Budgeting Process/Timeline – Mr. Bonanno presented a summary of research into the schedule and process by which FCPS capital improvement projects are approved and funded. The Committee discussed the budgeting process in an effort to understand the relationship between the relevant County and State approvals.

Preparation for Weds. March 8, 2023 Board of Education (BOE) Meeting: The Committee discussed who would be available to speak at the March 8 BOE meeting. Committee members and interested stakeholders volunteered to speak in support of prioritizing the BHS replacement. The Committee also discussed speakers for the March 22, 2023, BOE meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Bonanno made a motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.