

BHS New Build Committee Meeting Minutes

Sunday, April 30, 2023

Hope Bonanno called the meeting to order at 4:00pm. Committee members present included Hope Bonanno, Jerry Bonanno, Katie Routzahn, Brad Eye, Sarah Fogle, Katie Riley, and City Council Member Vaughn Ripley. Committee members Jamee Robinson, Michiko Jarrett, Veronica Hatch, and City Council Member Angel White were not present.

Approval of Minutes from April 2, 2023 Committee Meeting – Mrs. Bonanno confirmed all Committee members had received the draft meeting minutes from the April 2, 2023 meeting. Mr. Eye made a motion that the minutes be approved. Mr. Bonanno seconded the motion. All Committee members present voted “aye.” The minutes were approved.

Report on April 20, 2023 Meeting with FCPS Central Office Staff – Mrs. Riley led a discussion of the April 20, 2023, meeting between several members of the Committee and FCPS central office staff to discuss the process for prioritizing and funding FCPS capital improvement projects. Members of the BHS New Build Committee and Brunswick City officials present at the April 20, 2023 meeting included:

- Hope Bonanno, Chair, BHS Rebuild Committee
- Jerry Bonanno, BHS Rebuild Committee
- Angel White, Council Member, City of Brunswick
- Katie Riley, BHS Rebuild Committee
- Julie Martorana, City Administrator, City of Brunswick

Representatives from FCPS Central Office present at the meeting included:

- Dr. Paul Lebo, Chief Operating Officer, FCPS
- Dr. Daniel Lippy, Director of School Management, FCPS

Superintendent Dyson also accepted an invitation to attend the meeting, but was unable to attend due to an emergency. Other Committee members in attendance at the April 20 meeting participated in the discussion and shared views on the information presented by central office.

Report on April April 25, 2023 Frederick County Council Budget Meeting – Mrs. Bonanno provided a brief report out the April 25, 2023, County Council Budget Meeting. Several speakers addressed the need for BHS replacement, including Mrs. Bonanno, Julie Martorana (City Administrator, City of Brunswick), and State Senator William Folden.

Status of Public Information Act Requests – Mr. Bonanno provided an update on the status of two Committee Public Information Act requests that are pending with FCPS for the following information:

- Any documents (including email communications) created, distributed, or forwarded between June 12, 2019 and June 30, 2020, discussing or mentioning the Brunswick High School (BHS) replacement project approved by the Board of Education on June 12, 2019; and
- A list of all repairs, maintenance, and other evaluations that have been conducted by Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS) to correct or further investigate the deficiencies described in Section 3 (pages 27-79) of the Brunswick High School Feasibility Study between May 24, 2019 and March 9, 2023. Kindly include a brief description of each repair, maintenance activity, and evaluation; and the date on which the activities were completed. The most recent Facility Condition Index (FCI) calculated for Brunswick High School. The deferred maintenance cost used to calculate the most recent FCI for Brunswick High School and a detailed description of how that deferred maintenance cost was calculated, including the specific maintenance activities that are considered “deferred maintenance” and the costs associated with those specific maintenance activities. The current replacement cost used to calculate the most recent FCI for Brunswick High School, including the State Rated Capacity (i.e., the number of students) that estimate is based upon.

FCPS’ response letter dated March 30, 2023, estimated that the search time for responding to the request for emails would cost \$642.32. This estimate did not include any time necessary for FCPS General Counsel review of responsive information to determine the applicability of any exceptions to public disclosure.

FCPS’ March 30 letter did not provide an estimate for gather the information included in the second request above, but cautioned that fees for collection of that information could be significant and offered that the April 20, 2023, meeting with FCPS Central Office Staff may obviate the need for processing of the request. Mr. Bonanno informed the Committee that he emailed Ms. Dauksha from FCPS General Counsel’s office with several clarifying questions that would assist the Committee in making a decision on how to move forward. Mr. Bonanno informed the Committee that he had not yet received a response from Ms. Dauksha. The Committee discussed options for moving forward, but decided to postpone a final decision until more information was gathered during the May FCPS Board of Education (BOE) meetings.

Planning for May 3 and May 17 FCPS Board of Education Meetings – Mrs. Bonanno led a discussion regarding preparation for the May FCPS Board of Education meetings. The Committee discussed the need to have speakers at both meetings, and discussed the idea of getting support from our state delegation at the May 17, 2023, FCPS BOE meeting. Several members of the Committee agreed to reach out to Senator Folden and Delegate Pippy and request that they attend the May 17, 2023, FCPS BOE meeting.

Motion to Adjourn: Mr. Bonanno made a motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.