

Approved 5/4/15

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GLOBAL FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES March 30, 2015

ATTENDANCE: The meeting was convened by First Selectman Gayle Weinstein at 7:50am in the Town Hall Meeting Room with the following people in attendance: Beth Gralnick, John Troxell, Colleen Palmer, Joanne Keating, Elise Major, Ellen Uzenoff, Allen Swerdlowe, Margaret Wirtenberg, Juanita Forsythe, Tom Landry, Melissa Koller, and John Ojarovsky.

SPACE NEEDS: First Selectman Weinstein began the meeting with a summary of space options for various Town and School departments (attached). This included costs, identified departments, and potential locations. These options were discussed at length. Dr. Palmer said that there was the potential of placing BOE moving the second grade to the Middle School in 2017-18 if enrollments continued on their present trend. The District could revisit the use of North House for non-classroom purposes at that time. She also said that administrative staff could potentially be relocated there in 5 to 8 years if current enrollment trends hold.

Discussion regarding office use of the basement at the Central Office Building resulted in the conclusion that it was not promising given the negative impact on the first floor resulting from the installation of an elevator and a second staircase. Other options appeared likely to be less expensive.

In response to a question from Mr. Swerdlowe, the Superintendent said the Senior Center would need to move from South House if the BOE gave up North House for classroom use, because it wouldn't have sufficient space to operate as a school with just one of the three wings, plus there are lingering security concerns. In discussing current space needs and uses, Dr. Keating stated that the Annex should continue to function perfectly well as offices until we knew if the Middle School would be available to house them. Some suggested that the Town should build no more new square footage than was being demolished.

Ms. Gralnick said she felt the group would benefit from securing professional advice to further explore options and better define expected costs. This idea enjoyed much support in the discussion that followed although some felt this was not likely to be a productive activity. The group did ask Ms. Forsythe and Mr. Swerdlowe to develop a service RFP for circulation and consideration at its next meeting.

MINUTES: The group did not vote on the outstanding minutes for several reasons. The June 21, 2013 meeting had two sets of draft minutes, and it was uncertain which was the submitted version for approval. Additionally, there was no quorum present in the room from the June 20, 2014 meeting.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 9:31 am.