

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE
Facilities Action Team

December 9, 2009
755 Melville Avenue, Fairfield
Fairfield Warde High School – Lecture Room A & B

DRAFT MINUTES

Members Present: Tom Cullen, Chairman, Sal Morabito, Glenn Mackno, Judy Ewing, Dave Fryer, K.C. Davis

Members Absent: Amy Ulness, Paul Toaso, Tom Davis, Chris Manfredonia, Dave Schulz, Lawrence Shire, John Convertito

Resigned: Charlotte Leslie

Others Present: Bob Wall, Connecticut Clean Energy Task Force Fund, Dr. Matthew Connery and Steve Fekete (FWHS), FWHS students Matt Hamilton, Grace Kim, Diana Brisca, Mary Brisca, and Alex Lanzano,

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:15 PM by Mr. Cullen, Chairman.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of October 28, 2009, were discussed briefly. Mr. Fryer commented that he was not at the last meeting so he didn't make the motion to approve the minutes of September 23. There was agreement to defer approval of the minutes to the next meeting.

III. Appointment of monthly secretary

Ms. Ewing volunteered to be this month's recording secretary.

IV. Announcement of committee member changes

Mr. Cullen announced that Ms. Charlotte Leslie had resigned. She will be replaced by Ms. Kathleen Griffin.

V. Continuation of discussion of 3 year action item: "Maximize energy conservation for the future".

Mr. Cullen summarized the work of the committee: to work toward a presentation to the First Selectman and Board of Selectman with a proposal to begin a school roof replacement program involving photovoltaic systems. Mr. Morabito was asked to elaborate on a plan that would replace the FWHS roof which is 3 1/2 years past warranty. The roof area is 270,000 square feet over 50 sections of roof. An analysis will be needed.

Mr. Cullen commented that the new roof will have a 20 year warranty which adds to the roof life and will provide electrical savings. There are 17 schools in the district but eight of them were replaced at the same time in 1991. It would cost \$27 M to do the roofs that need replacing.

He would like to have the Board of Education send a letter to the First Selectman proposing a phased-in photovoltaic roof replacement at FWHS at a cost of \$14 - \$15 M over four years.

He added that it was hoped that a geothermal system could be included in the Stratfield school renovation/addition project but that it may be too late for that. It might be possible to include it in the Fairfield Woods Middle School project which includes the replacement of two boilers.

VI. Introduction of outside consultants

Mr. Cullen said that Mr. John Rountree, Westport Solar Consultants, was unable to attend as planned. He introduced Mr. Bob Wall, Connecticut Clean Energy Task Force, who said he had work with First Selectman Mr. Flatto on several town projects, some involving the schools.

Mr. Wall discussed energy funding made available by the stimulus package for photovoltaic and solar thermal incentives. He suggested contacting Mr. Bill Leahy, formerly with CL&P, for more information about efficiencies. He said most of the funding was for commercial projects. It was so popular that the money has run out, however, there is limited funding for school projects. He said the town is working toward an energy ordinance.

His advice on approaching town bodies is to stress not only the amount of money to be saved, but also the effect on student academic performance. Again, he urged the committee to contact Mr. Leahy who could advise on how to maximize the available money. There is a requirement to go 21% above existing efforts. He also suggested contacting the West Hartford Schools which had a district wide competition for energy savings.

Dr. Connery added that he thought it was important to stress student involvement.

Mr. Cullen remarked on the extensive use of the schools all year long. Such projects would pay off; at the same time it was difficult to get work done because of the amount of usage. Air conditioned spaces were highly sought after, he said.

The following Web sites were suggested:
ctcleanenergy.com
ctsavesenergy.com (efficiency)

Other alternatives were discussed, as was the possibility of approaching a fuel cell company.

VII. Future meetings

Mr. Cullen said he would contact Mr. Leahy who has had school experience and is involved in green projects with the City of Bridgeport. He will try to get him to speak at the next meeting. He will then notify the committee about the next meeting date.

VIII. Adjournment

Mr. Cullen asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. Ewing moved for adjournment; seconded by Mr. Morabito. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Ewing
Acting Secretary