

Arlington High School Building Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 20, 2018
AHS-School Committee Room-Sixth Floor
6:00 pm

Present: Jeff Thielman, School Committee Representative, Chair
Kathleen Bodie, Superintendent, Co-vice chair
Adam Chapdelaine, Town Manager, Co-vice chair
Kirsi Allison-Ampe, School Committee Representative
Francis Callahan, Community Member Representative
John Cole, Chair, Permanent Town Building Committee
Tobey Jackson, Community Member Representative
Matthew Janger, AHS Principal
Ryan Katofsky, Community Member Representative
Kate Loosian, Community Member Representative
William McCarthy, AHS Assistant Principal
Steve Nesterak, Facilities Director (absent)
Judson Pierce, Community Member
Sandy Pooler, Deputy Town Manager
Brian Rehrig, Capital Planning Committee Member
Daniel Ruiz, Community Member Representative
Amy Speare, Community Member Representative
Shannon Knuth, Teacher Representative
Kent Werst, Teacher Representative

Also present: Jim Burrows, Victoria Clifford, Skanska Inc.
Lori Cowles, Arthur Duffy, HMFH Architects, Inc.

Call to order: 6:00 pm

Public Participation

Carl Wagner – stated that by placing the columns as part of the amphitheater does not feel like a compromise, requests that the committee seek ways to maintain the façade, green space and control the traffic situation.

Ted Peluso – presented the committee a handout showcasing options to maintain memorials and historic items.

Estimated Schedule Update

Jim Burrows of Skanska updated the schematic design estimate schedule by a week stating that it must be submitted to MSBA ten business days before deadline. The change will require an email submission to MSBA by February 6. There was concern voiced that we are being too aggressive and overconfident with incoming estimates relative to being on budget.

Mr. Burrows noted that estimates are expected to come in within a few percentage points of the budget. The updated schedule includes adding meetings on January 29th and 31st if needed.

Exterior Design Review

Lori Cowles of HMFH reviewed Parti = the general scheme of an architectural design floor plans and topography.

The committee discussed:

- ◆ floor plan progress

- ◆ a mezzanine for preschool and guidance
- ◆ security and access to the building
- ◆ doorways and green roof
- ◆ auditorium access and exits
- ◆ media center (keeping it on one level)

Lori Cowles of HMFH informed the committee that the three designs to be presented reflect feedback from the committee on the exterior design. The central spine does not change in any of the options.

Concept A:

- ◆ Traditional Approach
- ◆ Considerations:
 - Folks are looking at it from a higher perspective
 - Reuse / Remake of the columns
- ◆ Steam wing façade is resembling Fusco
- ◆ Pop out of specialty spaces to create interest
- ◆ This option buries the auditorium to make the exterior more traditional
- ◆ Creates a forecourt
- ◆ Glazing in the interior entry? Or forecourt?

The committee questioned if after making the casting for columns could they be used decoratively thought-out? Yes, at a cost. Could A show an expressing of the auditorium, Does the angle of the auditorium effect the floorplan?

Concept B:

- ◆ Front columns are 1.5 stories high (tree level)
- ◆ Classroom pop-outs
- ◆ Would pop outs be on the inside of the two wings? Potentially.
- ◆ Front corners are turned out / major glazing (chorus room and science lab)
- ◆ Circle cut out in canopy seems like it would pool a lot of water / snow
- ◆ Potential to add windows in the Discourse Lab
- ◆ Lori suggests filtered light

Concept C

- ◆ No columns /
- ◆ Similar to B / no column entry
- ◆ Can the auditorium have an entrance / exit connecting to the front / creating a mini lobby
- ◆ Is there significant plan difference between b/c?
- ◆ Can the curve of the auditorium create a canopy for the entrance?
- ◆ Are there red flags as to why one of these options may be more expensive?
- ◆ Can we say the cost and timeline are equal? Yes.

Comments/concerns Is there anyway the façade can be attached to the building to make it more similar to the existing building? Concerned that the canopy in B could become a maintenance issue.

Ron Alex from the audience commented that he was encouraged by the updated design, would like to see a design that incorporated the columns, roof and clock tower.

Traffic Update

Lori Cowles has reached out the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) to meet to discuss their Traffic Impact Analysis report for the high school project. The committee agreed that doing an analysis of what mitigation will be necessary at the Grove Street/DPW site is a warranted expense.

On a motion by John Cole seconded by Frank Callahan it was unanimously:

Voted to maintain the ability for a vehicular outlet to allow access from the high school site to Grove Street through the DPW.

The Committee discussed existing and proposed vehicle circulation, as well as proposed pedestrian, sidewalk and bicycle circulation, usage of the back entrance and use of the fire lane on Mass. Ave. for live drop off.

Memorials Committee

Chairman Jeff Thielman informed the committee that he would like to establish a memorials subcommittee to inventory items on the high school site that need to be preserved. So Voted, moved by Adam Chapdelaine seconded Judson Peirce. Assistant Principal Bill McCarthy will chair the committee with appointees by the Veterans Committee and the Select Board. Any members interested in serving should be in touch with Mr. McCarthy.

Finance Subcommittee Update

Jim Burrows, Skanska, reviewed the Value Engineering document that outlined current and potential savings as well as:

- ◆ Accepted VE items – Comptroller and Facilities.
- ◆ VE Items under review – IT Network and offices and Payroll Department.
- ◆ Items for Consideration if estimates required – square footage and sample building VE items
- ◆ Incremental estimates will be broken out.
- ◆ The subcommittee will further develop and review the items.

Communications Update

Amy Speare reported that the next Community Forum will take place on November 27th at Town Hall and will cover the following:

- ◆ Project update, exterior designs, historic reuse, and site plans. The goal is to receive feedback via survey with an on-line version available. The forum will be broadcast live through ACMI.

Sustainability Subcommittee Update

Ryan Katofsky reported that he is coordinating schedules with the design team so that the next steps of the Accelerate Performance Program are synced with the Schematic Design Process. The design team will be starting energy modeling in December, and the SMEP subcommittee has also started compiling non-energy sustainability features to be included in the schematic design.

Approval of Minutes

On a motion by Brian Rehrig seconded by Adam Chapdelaine it was unanimously:

Voted to approve the meeting minutes of November 6, 2018.

New Business

None

On a motion by Kate Loosian seconded by Ryan Katofsky it was unanimously:

Voted to adjourn @ 10:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Karen Tassone
Recording Secretary
AHS Building Committee