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Meeting Minutes 06/28/2006

Approved

TOWN OF ARLINGTON
Minutes
School Facilities Working Group
Wednesday, June 28, 2006

Present: Nate Levenson, Supt. of Schools – Chair
 Brian Sullivan, Town Manager
 Kevin O'Brien, Director of Planning
 Alan Tosti, Finance Committee
 Stephen Gilligan, Town Treasurer
 Michael McCabe, Thompson Principal
 Alan Brown, Stratton Principal
 William Shea, Perm. Town Building Committee
 Robert Juusola, Perm. Town Building Committee
 Ron Spangler, Stratton Rep.

Call to Order: 6:30 p.m.

1. There was a discussion of the role and charge of the SFWG. It was generally agreed that the committee should provide a report for Town Meeting, pursuant to Article 65.
2. The change to the state reimbursement rules for school projects was reviewed. Very few details were certain, other than a very different process would be used.
3. The committee discussed what data was needed to move forward:
 - Funds remaining from the debt exclusion,
 - A working estimate for the cost of a new school,
 - Enrollment changes,
 - The range of uses for debt exclusion funds.
4. The Thompson School rebuild was discussed. Given its rating of "3," it was more likely to receive state reimbursement before the Stratton School.
5. There was a discussion as to whether the Superintendent of Schools and the Town Manager should meet with the Massachusetts School Building Authority to expedite the Thompson rebuild. It was generally agreed that there was not a compelling case to make within the new guidelines.
6. The Superintendent agreed to meet with Thompson and Stratton School parents to provide an update.
7. It was clarified that statements of interest are due July 31, 2007, not 2006.

Submitted by

Nate Levenson