



NORTH MIDDLESEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
ASHBY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE
Ashby – Pepperell – Townsend, Massachusetts

MEETING MINUTES – February 2, 2023
Virtual via Zoom Meet

PRESENT

Chairperson	June McNeil	School Committee Member
	Lisa Martin	School Committee Member, Alternate
	Brad Morgan	Superintendent
	Nancy Haines	District Business Manager
	Jeremy Hammond	Director of Technology
	David Amari	District Facilities Director
	Dan Johnson	District Facilities Director, Alternate
	Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Ashby Elementary School Principal
	Karen Walsh	Ashby Elementary School Staff Member
	David Nadeau	Ashby Selectboard Member
	Scott Hobart	Community Member, Ashby
	Dawn Roy	Community Member, Ashby
	Walter Hansen	Community Member, Ashby, Alternate

Also in attendance:

Michael Bussell	Ashby Acting Town Administrator
Mary Calandrella	Ashby Selectboard Member
Michael Sauvageau	Ashby Building Inspector

- The Chairperson, June McNeil, opened the meeting at 5:01 pm and announced the Committee was meeting in a virtual setting, fully remote via teleconferencing, practicing social distancing, and in accordance with the Governor's suspension of specific open meeting laws.

Roll Call:			
June McNeil	Yes	Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Yes
Lisa Martin	Yes	Karen Walsh	Yes
Brad Morgan	Yes	David Nadeau	Yes
Nancy Haines	Yes	Scott Hobart	Yes
Jeremy Hammond	Yes	Dawn Roy	Yes
David Amari	Yes	Walter Hansen	Yes
Dan Johnson	Yes		

- Ms. McNeil informed the Committee and attendees that the Ashby Elementary Building Committee's next meeting would be at 5:00 p.m. on February 7, 2023.
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OUR MISSION: North Middlesex Regional School District is dedicated to providing a comprehensive educational experience focused on students becoming contributing members of society.

- David Amari motioned, and Ann Cromwell-Gapp seconded the Committee vote to approve the AES Building Committee meeting minutes dated January 10, 2023, as presented.

Roll Call:			
June McNeil	Yes	Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Yes
Brad Morgan	Yes	David Nadeau	Yes
Scott Hobart	Yes	Dawn Roy	Yes
David Amari	Yes		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

- Discussion of Ashby Elementary School: Michael Bussell presented a proposal to the Committee to do an Ashby Elementary School refresh. The refresh would be funded using \$300,000 of Ashby ARPA funds that had been appropriated by a unanimous vote of the Ashby Select Board on February 1, 2023. The refresh would entail purchase of a new boiler, a chair lift and handrail which would address ADA compliance, and hall rug replacement and some other cosmetic work depending on remaining funds available. The work would be completed prior to the 2023-2024 school year, preferably done over the summer. Part of the proposal was a request that a feasibility study is not done at this time. Michael Sauvageau reiterated that AES is structurally sound but needs some maintenance. Brad Morgan noted that if AES was safe and maintained, he did not foresee a reason to move students out of the building. David Amari raised concerns that it is not just the boiler that needs addressing, other parts of the boiler system could also use upgrading. He noted that we need to look at a long-term plan. June McNeil responded that part of the charge of the AES Building Committee should be to not only guide the immediate repairs, but to also come up with a multi-year plan for AES. She suggested meeting quarterly once initial repairs are complete to consistently re-evaluate issues and to work with Ashby leadership to take a more proactive approach.
- David Nadeau motioned and Ann Cromwell-Gapp seconded the Committee rescind their previous recommendation to the NM School Committee to borrow \$300,000 for a feasibility study and project manager for Ashby Elementary School.

Roll Call:			
June McNeil	Yes	Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Yes
Brad Morgan	Yes	David Nadeau	Yes
Scott Hobart	Yes	Dawn Roy	Yes
David Amari	Yes		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

- 6. Public Comment – Patrick McPhee spoke regarding his concern about the sprinkler system. Michael Bussell replied that AES is regularly inspected by the Ashby Fire Department. Michael Sauvageau responded that at some point the sprinkler system may or may not be an issue depending on what projects are done at AES.
- 7. Other business – none
- 8. Next meeting – February 7, 2023 at 5pm

ADJOURNMENT

David Nadeau moved, and Ann Cromwell-Gapp seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:59 p.m.

Roll Call:			
June McNeil	Yes	Anne Cromwell-Gapp	Yes
Brad Morgan	Yes	David Nadeau	Yes
Scott Hobart	Yes	Dawn Roy	Yes
David Amari	Yes		

Vote: The motion unanimously passed 7/0/0.

Documents Reviewed / Referred To:

- 2023 2/2 AESBC Agenda
- 2023 1/10 AESBC Minutes

Respectfully submitted,
June McNeil

APPROVED: February 7, 2023