

**NEWBURYPORT SCHOOL COMMITTEE
SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES**

Sub-Committee: Buildings and Capital
Meeting Date: November 21, 2008
In Attendance: Dana Hooper, Deirdre Farrell, Steve Bergholm, Gordy Bechtel (via phone)
Absent: Stephanie Weaver

(1) Capital Improvement Plan

- ▶ Deirdre provided a package including the list of capital improvements and those that were approved by the City Council for FY08. Included in the package is and estimated project schedule, a detailed explanation and maps or diagrams where appropriate for each project.
- ▶ There is an opportunity to share costs with National Grid for any project identified as providing energy costs savings. This program is funded through the Department of Energy Resources (DOER)
- ▶ The subcommittee agreed that the October 22 lock down illuminated the need for certain capital improvements and that the City Council is working hard to address those issues.

(2) Status of MSBA Application

- ▶ Our Nock middle school SOI was put in the "on hold" status after the initial application. There was a letter sent out from the MSBA to the district asking for an updated SOI by November 15th, with several references to how "simple" the update would be. After spending hours on the not-so-simple new questions added to the form, Deirdre, Nancy, and others successfully sent out the update on time. The overall status continues to be pending.

(3) Buildings and Capital Survey

- ▶ We worked off the latest revisions supplied by Gordy via email
- ▶ In general the survey is near completion. There was some discussion around whether we would "open a can of worms" with the section currently titled School Configuration. Deirdre suggested changing the section title so as not to include the word "configuration" as it may bring up the thought of the FY07 reconfiguration, as if we were planning another such event.
- ▶ We should create some stronger wording to fend off the possibility of misunderstanding along the lines of grade configuration.
- ▶ Switch School Configuration and Community-Wide Usage and add explanation in the School Configuration section.
- ▶ ABOUT YOU: No need to differentiate those who have kids in the public schools vs. those who don't.
- ▶ Add the question "Are you a student?"
- ▶ Change "How old are you?" to question including checkoff for age range.

- ▶ Question regarding level of involvement need only differentiate between those who have a good knowledge of the state of the buildings and those who don't. No need to add categories like "attended a concert" as it is no different from "Not Involved"

(4) Agreed Upon Actions (Standard Last Bullet)

- (1) **Deirdre** will send FY08 Capital Improvement Plan to subcommittee via email*
- (2) **Dana** will work on introductory paragraph to strengthen the message that we are NOT planning near term changes in configuration but only creating a long term vision*
- (3) **Dana** contact **Stephanie** and **Nick** to review their experience on the SC evaluation survey and get ideas for distributing the B&C survey.*
- (4) **Dana** work with **Cathy** Manning to put survey into the survey software.*