

Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes

09.16.2024

Committee Members: President Ken Durr, Member Amber Wood

Meeting motioned to begin at 6:12 P.M.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Approval of the August 19, 2024 Facilities Committee Meeting Minutes were tabled. They will be revisited at the next meeting date.

Public Comment

Melissa Iusco- regarding Niles West pool addition

Amelia R (student)- regarding Niles West pool addition

Meghan Dempsey- regarding Niles West pool addition

Paul Torres- regarding Niles West pool addition

Natalie D.- regarding Niles West pool addition

Vehicle Purchase

Mrs. Kowalski provided the committee with information regarding the purchase of a new vehicle. The vehicle will be purchased through a cooperative. The vehicle being replaced was purchased in 2008. The trade-in value is around \$4,000.00 due to the vehicle being 'extreme duty' and having salt corrosion. The new vehicle is \$114,413.00, including trade-in value. Member Wood wanted to know why the vehicle is so expensive. It was explained that the vehicle is fully loaded. Member Wood asked if it were possible to find a less expensive vehicle. This item will be taken to the Finance Committee Meeting of the Whole.

Sale of Property (Non-Real Estate)

Mrs. Kowalski provided the committee with information regarding disposal of obsolete vehicles. Assistant Superintendent Vreeland stated that a Kelly Blue book search will be executed and the vehicles will go out to bid. The highest bid will receive the vehicles- not holding the district in any liability. Member Wood wants to know if the trade in value of these vehicles can be used for the previous item (vehicle purchase). Administration will look into this option. This item will be presented at the next Board of Education meeting.

FY25 Summer Construction Update

Ms. Athi Toufexis, Studio GC, lead this item. Ms. Toufexis explained that a large milestone was reached in completing the layout and design for the Niles West addition and Niles Central building. Ms. Toufexis presented the outcome of Niles West and explained that there was a lot of student agency in completing this project. Ms. Toufexis then presented the Niles Central construction project.

Furthermore, Ms. Toufexis asked for the input of the committee to decide if they would like Niles Central to become LEED or WELL Certified. There is a \$150k cost addition to become LEED certified for the Niles Central High School, and an additional \$61k for WELL certification- there

should be some overlap between the two estimated costs. There is a tri-annual recertification expense for LEED and an annual recertification cost for WELL. Sustainability is one goal of the district. The committee agreed to attaining a WELL & LEED certification. Furthermore, this process of certification will be considered as a standard operating procedure for future district projects.

Other Summer 2025 projects (the postponed digital media lab, staff lounge and doors projects) will be included in the large construction project to capitalize on economies of scale. Smaller projects, such as roofing, will be bid out separately.

Financial Projections

This item was led by Mr. Vreeland, Assistant Superintendent for Business. He began by expressing that projected revenue is always flat due to planning with the worse case scenario. The fund balance reflects the operating funds only. President Durr inquired if the pool is factored within the 7-year plan. Mr. Vreeland stated that there is a possibility for acquiring debt or going for referendum due to the pool not being placed in the budget cycle, as is, the pool could not be considered until after 2028. Ms. Wood wants to be thoughtful and ensure the suggestion of one of our public commenters, 'that when we do the pool to do it right'. The current plan keeps the District at the 25% revenue to fund balance threshold with all funds.

Member Wood would like the information that was collected by Member Nowik and for the district architect to review it. President Durr had a question regarding referendum vs. long-term debt. Mr. Vreeland provided an explanation of feasibility and the health of the district; he wants the committee to think about the 2030 health of the district. Member Wood thanked Mr. Vreeland for his presentation to the Board Of Education in August (budget presentation). She appreciated the educational aspect.

Old Business

Niles West Pool- President Durr wants to understand where the pool falls into the 7-Year Facility Plan. Mr. Vreeland and President Durr discuss the feasibility and health of the district. They discussed the purpose of maximizing resources and having a sustainable package. Members want to add the Niles West Pool to the committee agenda. Member Durr stated that capital projects have a shelf life and want to know how to prioritize the projects in decision making. He wants the committee to be clear about their position and to provide honest, accurate, and recorded feedback. Mrs. Kowalski and Mr. Vreeland would like to create a life-end and/or process/plan for all items that may have a life end and to projects that may be newly sprouted.

Water Main Break, Niles West- Mrs. Kowalski stated that in the visitor parking lot of Niles West, a water main break occurred one week prior to the beginning of school. There's an assumption that this break came from the construction that is occurring on the corner of Oakton. The price was high, \$23k, yet below the threshold of board action. Administration will try to claim those funds from IDOT.

Niles North & Niles West, Prayer Spaces-The Assistant Principals of Operations provided an update of their building prayer spaces. Mr. Panther (N.W. APO) detailed how a prayer pass is given to students to dismiss them from class. Their spaces are located in Niles West at door 22. Julianne Evans (N.N. APO) states how she worked with MSA and MENA sponsor. The prayer spaces available at Niles North in room 1810 M-Th and the SkyLoft on Friday afternoons. Niles North prefers the dual spaces for a variety of reasons: supervision will increase for the second semester. Member Wood asked if there is any concern with plumbing? Julianne expressed how students are grateful to the proximity. Mr. Panther states that Niles West students are happy

with the access/ proximity to the restrooms. APO's report that the process was collaborative and acceptable

New Business

N/A

Adjournment

8:32 P.M.