

**BERKSHIRE HILLS REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Great Barrington

Stockbridge

West Stockbridge

**MONUMENT MOUNTAIN REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE (SBC) MEETING**

**In-Person/Virtual**

July 24, 2024 – 4:30 PM / 5:30 PM

*In-Person Location : District Office Professional Development Room, 50 Main Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Stockbridge, MA*

*Virtual Location: (Public attendance)\* Zoom (details provided on meeting agenda)*

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**Part 1 of the Meeting Opened: 4:30 PM – Project Outreach/Campaign Guidelines – Jason Tait, Office of Campaign and Political Finance**

**SBC Members:**

**Present:** **Stephen Bannon**- School Committee Chair, **Stephen Boyd**- Community Member, **Peter Dillon**-Superintendent, **Jason St. Peter**- Building Committee Chair/School Committee, **Christopher Barnes**- School Principal, **Rob Putnam**- Interim Assistant Superintendent  
**Absent:** **Eric Gabriel**- Community Member, **Steven Soule**- Director of Operations, **Kara Staunton-Shron**- Teacher/Librarian, **Stephen Shatz**- Community Member, **Jamie Goldenberg**- Community Member, **Lily Haskins-Vaughn**-Student, **Diane Singer**- School Committee Member, **Ananda Timpane**- Community Member, **Kristina Farina(Kristi)**, Retired Principal/Community Member, **Kate Van Olst**- Community, Member, **Daniel Bailly**- Community Member, **Sharon Harrison**- Business Administrator, **Bill Fields**- Retired Teacher/School Committee, **Ian Brown**- Assistant Principal for Career, Technical and Vocational Education, **Sarah Bourla**- School Committee Member

**Other Attendees:**

Jason Tait, Office of Campaign and Political Finance (virtual), Rebecca Gold (Outreach Subcommittee Chair), Richard Le (Outreach Subcommittee Member - virtual), Ellen Pahn (Outreach Subcommittee Member), THE Newsletter (virtual), Dave Edson (virtual), Paul's iPhone (virtual)

**Owner Project Managers (OPM):**

John Benzinger, Ben Murphy (virtual), Nick Lobik, Victoria Clifford, Brayden Smith (Skanska USA Building, Inc.)

**DiNisco/WRA (Design Team):**

Donna DiNisco, Jeff Oxsalida, James (Jim) Shuttleworth, (DiNisco Design, Inc.), Sam Lasky, Andy Jonic, Andrew Corcoran (WRA)

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**Jason St. Peter, SBC Chair, opened the meeting at 5:34 PM.**

- Introductions
  - Jason Tait – Office of Campaign and Political Finance
- OCPF Presentation
  - The main function of the OCPF is to report disclosure of campaign monies
  - Review of what can be done to get the word out on a public ballot question
  - Appointed and compensated public employees may not solicit or receive funds for any political purpose, directly or indirectly
  - 1978 policy – public entity can't use public funds to advocate for a ballot question
  - Public resources usually involve distribution:

- Unsolicited
  - Public funds
  - Election issue
- o Government resources:
- o Anything paid for by the taxpayers – personnel, paper, supplies, meeting rooms, copiers, etc.
- What about Town Meeting?
  - o These rules apply to town meeting
  - o Often town meeting and an election is tied together – if there are any resources that will be used to assist in town meeting ensure it is approved by OCPF.
  - o Generally, it is ok to publish a mailing but run it by OCPF first.
- Common applications that are prohibited:
  - o Mass mailings
  - o Distribution via student backpacks
  - o Email listservs
  - o School newsletter
  - o Robocalls
- No propaganda or any visuals/wording that look or read like a campaign
- Skanska to send Jason Tait a copy of the proposed August project update pamphlet to review
- Skanska to obtain a copy of today's presentation and provide to the SBC/post publicly
- The SBC thanked Jason for his time and helpful presentation

Jason Tait left the meeting at 5:20 PM

The SBC took a short recess to prep for Part 2, 5:30 PM, Regular Agenda Meeting.

## **Part 2 of the Meeting Opened: 5:30 PM – Regular Agenda**

### **SBC Members:**

**Present:** **Stephen Bannon**- School Committee Chair, **Stephen Boyd**- Community Member, **Peter Dillon**-Superintendent, **Jason St. Peter**- Building Committee Chair/School Committee, **Christopher Barnes**- School Principal, **Rob Putnam**- Interim Assistant Superintendent, **Steven Soule**- Director of Operations, **Kara Staunton-Shron**-Teacher/ Librarian, **Diane Singer**- School Committee Member, **Ananda Timpone**- Community Member (virtual), **Eric Gabriel**- Community Member, **Bill Fields**- Retired Teacher/School Committee  
**Absent:** **Stephen Shatz**- Community Member, **Jamie Goldenberg**- Community Member, **Lily Haskins-Vaughn**- Student, **Kristina Farina(Kristi)**- Retired Principal/Community Member, **Kate Van Olst**- Community, Member, **Daniel Bailly**- Community Member, **Sharon Harrison**-Business Administrator, **Bill Fields**- Retired Teacher/School Committee, **Ian Brown**- Assistant Principal for Career, Technical and Vocational Education, **Sarah Bourla**- School Committee Member

### **Other Attendees:**

Rebecca Gold (Outreach Subcommittee Chair), Richard Le (Outreach Subcommittee Member - virtual), Ellen Pahn (Outreach Subcommittee Member), THE Newsletter (virtual), Dave Edson (virtual), Paul's iPhone (virtual)

### **Owner Project Managers (OPM):**

John Benzinger, Ben Murphy (virtual), Nick Lobik, Victoria Clifford, Brayden Smith (Skanska USA Building, Inc.)

### **DiNisco/WRA (Design Team):**

Donna DiNisco, Jeff Oxsalid, James (Jim) Shuttleworth, (DiNisco Design, Inc.), Sam Lasky, Andy Jonic, Andrew Corcoran (WRA)

**Jason St. Peter, SBC Chair, opened the meeting at 5:34 PM.**

- **Housekeeping**

- Skanska reviewed SBC membership updates.
  - New members:
    - Christopher Barnes
    - Ian Brown
    - Rob Putnam
    - Sarah Bourla
    - Kristi Farina – membership change from HS Principal, to community member
  - Peter Dillon and Jason St. Peter to confirm if inactive committee members will be staying on
  - Next meeting, SBC to vote on an updated membership log to be submitted to the MSBA
- Meeting Minutes Approval:
  - No pending minutes to approve
- Update on Distributions:
  - Skanska to send calendar invited for future SBC meetings
  - Brayden Smith, new Skanska Project Engineer to assist with distributions while Victoria Clifford is on maternity leave (early October – early January)
  - Link to public share drive has been removed from District website and relocated to the Project website in the following pages:
    - <https://monumentbuildingproject.org/documents/sbc-agendas-minutes/>
    - <https://monumentbuildingproject.org/documents/document-center/>

Eric Gabriel joined at 5:39 PM

- **Skanska Update**

- Nick Lobik gave an overview of schedule, specifically deadlines for the PDP estimate and votes needed
  - Before Thanksgiving break, SBC to vote on a preferred solution
  - December, SBC to vote on submitting the PSR to the MSBA
- Nick gave an update that the PDP comments from the MSBA were forthcoming
- Skanska recommended the SBC approve the kartooneDU proposal for a not to exceed contract amount of \$4,500.00. This amount would cover 6 “pillars” videos for project outreach.
- Victoria added that the videos can be used at any point in the project.
- **Steve Bannon moved to approve the kartooneDU proposal for a not to exceed contract amount of \$4,500.00. Bill Fields seconded the motion.**
- **Jason St. Peter called a roll call vote.**
  - **Yes: Stephen Bannon, Stephen Boyd, Peter Dillon, Jason St. Peter, Christopher Barnes, Rob Putnam, Steven Soule, Kara Staunton-Shron, Diane Singer, Ananda Timpane-Community Member, Eric Gabriel, Bill Field**
  - **No: None**
  - **Abstained: None**
  - **Absent: Stephen Shatz, Jamie Goldenberg, Lily Haskins, Kristina Farina(Kristi), Kate Van Olst, Daniel Bailly, Sharon Harrison, Bill Fields, Ian Brown, Sarah Bourla**
- **The motion passed unanimously.**

Steve Bannon left around 6:00 PM.

- **Design Update**

- Donna DiNisco noted that the focus of the design update would be to review recent updates to educational program and proposed space program.
- Donna reviewed updates as reviewed with District/departmental heads.
- Steve Boyd voiced his belief that a new building would be the best investment for the community. Steve noted that the cost is close in all options which makes a new construction option more appealing. Steve noted that the SBC and Project Team needs go through the exercise of evaluating how we cut \$20M out of the project to make it more affordable for the taxpayers.
  - Donna answered the only way to make that significant of a cut would be by cutting out programmatic space.
  - The group discussed potential savings from utilizing prefabricated buildings for voc. tech spaces.
  - Ananda Timpane reiterated Steve’s point that we need to make the case and show we did the research is critical for outreach.
  - Ananda asked if the outreach subcommittee was scanning the “community board”.
    - Victoria to follow up.
  - Ananda asked the outreach subcommittee to work on the messaging for cost and value and to utilize social media.
    - Victoria noted that the kartooneDU videos will be more palatable for social media and that the tri-fold/pamphlet will help drive folks to the website for more information. Cost information will be included in the tri-fold/pamphlet and in website FAQ’s. Will continue to develop the cost narrative as we get updated cost information at the end of the PSR phase.
  - Bill Fields brought up a recent Berkshire Edge opinion article that stated the project would raise taxes by 16%.
    - Donna noted that the project team and outreach subcommittee is working on a physical tri-fold pamphlet for the community and an updated FAQ.
- Options Review
  - Donna gave an overview of the options and review of project goals
  - District storage shed is being constructed on-site now near the greenhouse and will be incorporated in the design
  - Advancements in floor plans shown for:
    - Alternative 2C reno/major addition
    - Alternative 3E new construction
    - Alternative 3E new construction
    - Alternative 3H new construction
  - Donna noted systems selection – all electric to be studied, end of august sustainability meeting to be scheduled
  - Bill asked what type of roof we are planning for
    - Flat roof, slightly sloped for drainage
    - Commercial roof 20 – 30-year guarantee
  - Bill asked if we can look at water reuse for irrigation
    - Design team noted that they could look at it but it adds cost
- Key dates:
  - PSR phase July through December 2024
  - MSBA Board Meeting to proceed into Schematic Design February 2025
  - Schematic Design January 2025 through June 2025
  - Schematic Design Submission to MSBA June 2025
  - MSBA Board Meeting to proceed with local funding August 2025
  - Local vote for project approval – Fall 2025

## **Subcommittees Updates**

- Site Design Subcommittee:
  - To be engaged early September
- Chapter 74 Subcommittee:
  - No longer needed (dissolved)
- Sustainability Subcommittee:
  - Second meeting to be scheduled for end of August
- Outreach Subcommittee:
  - Overview of 4:30 PM presentation from Jason Tait, OCPF.
  - Pamphlet/tri-fold in final review, to be reviewed by OCPF, to be printed and available for pick up at the District Offices by end of next week. Victoria to follow up with announcement when available and post for the District Facebook page.
  - Website FAQ's are being revamped with relevant information. To be posted by next SBC meeting.
  - Subcommittee to be engaged for kartoonEDU video development.
  - Project newsletter may not be allowed under OCPF stipulations, Victoria to confirm.

## **New Business**

- Next meeting: August 21<sup>st</sup>, 5:30 PM.

## **Motion to adjourn by Peter Dillon. Motion seconded by Steven Boyd.**

- **Yes: Stephen Bannon, Stephen Boyd, Peter Dillon, Jason St. Peter, Christopher Barnes, Rob Putnam, Steven Soule, Kara Staunton-Shron, Diane Singer, Ananda Timpane, Bill Fields**
- **No: None**
- **Abstained: None**
- **Absent: Stephen Shatz, Jamie Goldenberg, Lily Haskins, Kristina Farina(Kristi), Kate Van Olst, Daniel Bailly, Sharon Harrison, Bill Fields, Ian Brown, Sarah Bourla, Eric Gabriel**

**The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 PM.**