

Facilities Subcommittee
November 7, 2011

PRESENT: MARLENE POLLOCK; JILL USSACH; JACK NOBREGA, CHAIR

ABSENT: NONE

Also in attendance was Mary Louise Francis, Superintendent and Deborah Brown, Business Manager.

The meeting began at 6:45 p.m.

The Work Order Reports were reviewed and Ms. Brown indicated that keeping up with the work orders was difficult with the shortage of staff in maintenance.

Dr. Francis indicated that we work with Mike Medeiros, Acting Assistant Facilities Manager, to prioritize all orders.

Voted unanimously on a motion made by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Mrs. Ussach to receive and place on file the Facilities Work Order Reports.

Ms. Brown updated the Subcommittee on the Walsh Field House. Some of the repairs that have taken place are painting the inside, water line installed for a bubbler, roof and windows have been redone, lighting was redone, a roll up door in the back and double doors in the front were installed. Ms. Brown indicated that Mr. John Perry, Superintendent of Facilities Maintenance and Construction for the City, indicated that a gas line was not accessible from the street. Mr. Perry said in order to provide heat for the Field House, a foundation for three 100 pound propane tanks was poured and chain link fencing was installed.

Ms. Brown indicated that additional work by our maintenance staff had been completed on a new roof for the press box. Also, the stadium railings were tightened, and the bathrooms were painted by an outside contractor due to lead issues in the underlying paint.

Ms. Brown provided an update on the clean up of the Hayden-McFadden School where vandals had created quite a mess with releasing fire extinguishers. She indicated that the Solicitor's Office was handling the legal matter with the court and that a victim impact statement was provided by Ms. Madden, Principal. Also, a list of the costs associated with clean-up and damage to equipment was prepared and submitted to the Solicitor's Office in the event that restitution could be received.

Ms. Pollock asked if all were under 18. Ms. Brown indicated that one individual was 17 and the others were minors. Dr. Francis indicated that three were students of New Bedford Schools.

The next discussion turned to the Gomes School clean-up. Ms. Brown indicated that the School Committee received a memorandum at the October 17, 2011 School Committee meeting where New Bedford Public Schools responded in detail to the Massachusetts Department of Education's letter of recommendations. Ms. Brown indicated that the efforts are continuing where a roofing contractor has been engaged to address leaks that had been discovered.

Ms. Pollock asked if there are other issues that need to be addressed based on the comments made by the teacher from the Gomes at the School Committee meeting.

Dr. Francis indicated that conversations are under way to determine ways that the School Department maintenance staff could work with the City maintenance staff.

The next discussion was on the Taylor School. Ms. Brown indicated that the Taylor School nurse wrote an email to Karen Regan indicating that a student had been sick and suggested that the sickness might have been attributable to mold in the building. The communication was forwarded to Maryann DeSouza who contacted the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH). Cory Holmes of MDPH was scheduled to visit the Taylor School last Thursday but was unable to do so. The visit was to be rescheduled and New Bedford Public Schools will await the results. Ms. DeSouza indicated to Ms. Brown that MDPH usually gets in touch immediately if there are significant concerns.

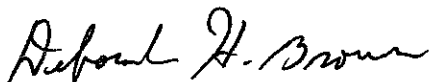
Discussion ensued regarding where Taylor students and Hannigan students would go to school if funding could be secured from the MSBA. Dr. Francis indicated that we are working on the Statement of Interests for the MSBA and that there are two deadlines. The first deadline is for the end of the month and the second one is in January. Dr. Francis mentioned that a meeting was held with Mr. Fay, Principal of the Parker School, and that the state was trying to dovetail the level 4 school with the facilities issues. Mr. Fay's issues were windows and cosmetics.

Under Other Business, Ms. Pollock indicated that no TV's at the Keith are working and she would like that looked into.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ussach to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pollock seconded the motion. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Deborah H. Brown".

Deborah H. Brown
Business Manager
Sub-Committee Liaison