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New Milford Board of Education Facilities Sub-Committee Minutes March 31, 2015

Lillis Administration Building, Room 2

Present:

Mr. Dave Littlefield, Chairperson

Mrs. Wendy Faulenbach Mr. David A. Lawson Mr. John W. Spatola

Also Present:

Dr. JeanAnn C. Paddyfote, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Joshua Smith, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Jay Hubelbank, Director of Fiscal Services and Operations

Mr. John Calhoun, Facilities Manager

Mr. Nestor Aparicio, Assistant Facilities Manager

1.	Call to Order	Call to Order
	The meeting of the New Milford Board of Education Facilities Sub-Committee was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Mr. Littlefield.	
2.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	 Paul Chayka, Director and co-founder of Robotics and Beyond and a New Milford resident, said his non-profit is interested in acquiring space in the JPS building. He said there are many other non-profit groups and school related organizations that provide opportunities for student exploration in arts, technology, computer science and other similar areas that are in need of space and the JPS building would provide opportunities for them to come together. 	
3.	Discussion and Possible Action	Discussion and Possible Action
A.	Five Year Facilities Capital Plan 2015-2020	A. Five Year Facilities Capital Plan 2015-2020
	 Mr. Calhoun said the plan is reassessed each year and updated as district needs are reprioritized. 	
	 Mr. Spatola asked about the status of the Lillis cupola. Mr. Calhoun said the Youth Agency plans to have work done this summer. 	
	 Mr. Spatola asked who would pay for the work 	

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and whether or not the wood was rotted. Mr. Calhoun said the Youth Agency was funding through a grant and that the wood was not rotting so restoration is possible.

- Mr. Lawson asked about the \$385,000
 electrical upgrade at Lillis on the list. Mr.
 Calhoun said that item has been listed for
 several years and gets moved down as other
 priorities emerge. Mr. Lawson said the Board
 should keep in mind expenses for the Lillis
 building when having discussions about the
 fate of the JPS building.
- Mr. Lawson said there had been previous talk several years ago about foundation issues at Lillis and asked about the status. Mr. Calhoun said that had been looked at about ten years ago and there was nothing current.

Mrs. Faulenbach moved to bring the Five Year Facilities Capital Plan 2015-2020 to the full Board for approval.

Motion seconded by Mr. Spatola.

• Mr. Lawson wanted it noted that the plan is subject to change if priorities shift in the future.

Motion passed unanimously.

B. John Pettibone Building Follow-up

• Mr. Lawson said he thinks there are lots of unanswered questions on this subject. He said he thinks it is clear that there is a demand for use of the JPS building as a school and community resource and that more ideas for use come in every day including for the sciences, university courses, alternative education program, possible culinary school, GED program and others. He said perhaps these programs would provide enough funding to offset expenses. He also has concerns about the Lillis building as it continues to age.

Mrs. Faulenbach says this discussion has gone

Motion made and passed unanimously to bring the Five Year Facilities Capital Plan 2015-2020 to the full Board for approval.

B. John Pettibone Building Follow-up

- on for months now and asked what other items need to be brought before this committee for resolution.
- Mr. Lawson said he would like to see an analysis of what is needed at each district building. He thinks there is no rush and that time should be taken to look at all options. If the town ends up having to build a new school down the road, it will be tremendously expensive.
- Mr. Littlefield said it is his understanding based on the attorney comments that once the building is no longer used as a school it must be turned over to the town.
- Mr. Lawson said there are options; the district can use it as a closet if it wants and keep it.
- Mr. Spatola said he had spoken to another attorney who said that if the district chooses to keep the building it must be used for New Milford school purposes. So for example, a culinary school or robotics would not be in our purview; the town council would need to approve.
- Mr. Lawson said he disagreed and that some of the space could be dedicated to New Milford schools for offices, alternative education etc. while the extra space could be used by outside organizations through building use.
- Mrs. Faulenbach said maintenance costs are high and dialogue is needed on how to fund capital expenditures down the road.
- Mr. Hubelbank passed out a spreadsheet which outlined estimated capital expenses for JPS and Lillis over the next ten years or so.
- Mr. Spatola said he remembered an old report that talked about \$12 to \$13 million in expenses. Mr. Calhoun said that was a very comprehensive examination of the entire district which totaled about \$60 million.
- Mr. Lawson asked if the JPS roof work is eligible for state aid. Mr. Hubelbank said it would be but the same issues arise here as with SMS as to whether that would be cheaper or not in the end.

	 Mr. Littlefield asked if the cost was lower than the SMS project due to size and Mr. Calhoun said yes and that he had used the square foot estimate given for SMS to provide this estimate. Mr. Lawson said if the district keeps the JPS building we can still monitor enrollment annually. If it continues to drop, we can always reconsider. If it rises, we will be glad to have the building. Mrs. Faulenbach said a plan is still needed to pay for these items. Mr. Littlefield said the topic would be put on the next Facilities agenda. 	
4.	Items of Information	Items of Information
A.	 Mr. Hubelbank said the project has gone out to bid. Three companies came for the required walkthrough. Bids are due April 7th, hoping to finalize by April 13th. He needs to get a timeline from the town for bonding and a special meeting may be required depending on the timeline. 	A. SMS Roof
В.	Update on Overtime	B. Update on Overtime
	 Mr. Calhoun handed out an update; overtime is still trending well. The department is slightly over in the maintenance budget with the rough winter requiring snow removal and building checks but the custodial side is in good shape. Mr. Littlefield asked if this update included the leak in the theatre at the high school and Mr. Calhoun said it did. Mr. Hubelbank said there is also a revenue offset for overtime charged to organizations for building use. 	
5.	Public Comment	Public Comment
	Robert Coppola said he was confused by some	

	of the discussion he heard this evening regarding sharing the JPS building with other groups since the Lillis Building is shared now with the Youth Agency.	
6.	Adjourn Mr. Lawson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. seconded by Mrs. Faulenbach and passed unanimously.	Adjourn Motion made and passed unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted/

Dave Littlefield, Chairperson Facilities Sub-Committee