

**LAND USE AND BUILDING MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
SPECIAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2010  
BRIEN MCMAHON HIGH SCHOOL/CGS, ROOM #1027**

**ATTENDANCE:** Fred Bondi, Chair; Clyde Mount; Laurel Lindstrom,  
David Jaeger, Richard Bonenfant  
(6:14 p.m.)

**STAFF:** Alan Lo, Land Use and Building Management

**OTHERS:** Andrew Conroy, Councilman; Dr. Polselli, BOE IT  
Director; David Hopp, BOE Assistant IT Director;  
Mark Gorian, BOE Facilities; Roz McCarthy, CGS  
Principal; Ms. Li, CGS Chinese language teacher;  
David Park, Historical Commission; Dr. Victor Black

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Bondi called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. and called the roll. A quorum was present.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING(S)**

**February 3, 2010**

**\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED THE MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 3, 2010.**

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 3, 2010 MINUTES AS SUBMITTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO CONSIDER THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED UNDER NEW BUSINESS FIRST.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. Board of Education – Norwalk High School Pool

1. Review proposed energy conservation improvements to pool equipment and refer the following to the Common Council for approval:

**“a. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a Purchase Order to Automated Building Systems as the Sole Source vendor for the supply and installation of two variable frequency drives pool water pumps for the Norwalk High School pool and tie into the existing Alerton Building Energy Management System. Total cost shall not exceed \$13,865.00. Acct. #09045010 5777 B0310**

**b. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a Purchase Order to Automated Building Systems as the Sole Source vendor for the integration of two existing Desert Aire dehumidification/heating units in the Norwalk High School pool, with the existing Alerton Building Energy Management System. Total cost shall not exceed \$12,820.00. Acct. #09045010 5777 B0310**

**c. Authorize the Purchasing Agent to issue a Purchase Order to Brock Enterprises, Inc. for the supply and installation of a pool blanket and storage system at Norwalk High School for a total not to exceed \$12,643.00 (lowest quote). Acct. #09045010 5777 B0310**

**\*\* MS. LINDSTROM MOVED AGENDA ITEMS A 1 (a-c) REGARDING THE NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL POOL.**

Ms. Lindstrom asked Mr. Gorian about the potential cost savings, which Mr. Gorian then reviewed with the Committee. He added that there would also be some rebates from CL&P and possibly the State of Connecticut for this project.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO APPROVE AGENDA ITEMS A 1 (a-c) REGARDING THE NORWALK HIGH SCHOOL POOL PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Norwalk Historical Commission

1. Review proposal to accept funds from Norwalk Preservation Trust for the preparation of a new Norwalk Historic Resource Inventory and refer the following to the Common Council for action:

**“Authorize the Mayor, Richard A. Moccia, to execute a subgrant agreement with the Norwalk Preservation Trust to accept grant funds in the amount of \$20,000 to be used for the preparation of the Norwalk Historic Resource Inventory. The funding was originally provided under a grant from the State of Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism. These funds will be combined with \$20,000 from existing City’s Capital Budget allocation for the same purpose in order to fully fund the project (acct. #09086310 5777 C0448)**

**\*\* MR. MOUNT MOVED THE ITEM.**

Mr. Park came forward and stated that this grant funding was basically a gift from the State to the City.

**\*\* THE MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, RICHARD A. MOCCIA, TO EXECUTE A SUBGRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE NORWALK PRESERVATION TRUST TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$20,000 TO BE USED FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE NORWALK HISTORIC RESOURCE INVENTORY. THE FUNDING WAS ORIGINALLY PROVIDED UNDER A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON CULTURE AND TOURISM. THESE FUNDS WILL BE COMBINED WITH \$20,000 FROM EXISTING CITY’S CAPITAL BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE SAME PURPOSE IN ORDER TO FULLY FUND THE PROJECT (ACCT. #09086310 5777 C0448) PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION–IT DEPARTMENT PRESENTATION**

## **Update on the status of IT equipment inventory**

Dr. Polselli came forward and greeted the Committee members. Dr. Polselli distributed copies of the “Technology Info. Department Computer Inventory” to the Committee members. He said that the current inventory of the BOE IT equipment inventory was moving forward. Currently, all the new equipment has been inventoried and entered into a database. The older equipment has not, but is scheduled for April for all the middle schools and for the summer for the high schools in order not to interrupt classes. Elementary schools equipment inventory has been completed.

Mr. Bondi commented that with the money being so tight for the City and BOE budget, everyone is looking to save as much as possible and only buy what is absolutely necessary. A discussion followed about a recently denied request for new equipment. Dr. Polselli explained that keeping the older systems running often costs more than purchasing the new ones because of the support needed. He said that he believed that purchasing a quality product was often the best way to save.

### **Presentation on the current Norwalk Schools IT Plan**

Dr. Poselli explained that the District would have to begin creating a new Technology Plan because the one that was written by Mr. Valenzisi had planned the first stages for replacing equipment. The State of Connecticut wants every student to have updated technology.

He then gave a brief overview of how the iPod was used to teach World Languages. He added that Brien McMahon has one world language lab, but Norwalk High currently does not. There is a room for the lab, and the SmartBoard is installed, but they need 3 iPod carts along with the appropriate furniture. Brien McMahon students used their language labs all the time. Having a good return on investment is critical, he explained, because it would be pointless to purchase equipment that ended up being put in a closet and never used.

Dr. Polselli said that he has been asked about the use of kindles for education and explained that the students do not interact with Kindles. Mr. Conroy asked about whether the old style language labs with the headphones still existed in the schools. Dr. Polselli said that he believed they had all been removed. Now, using an iPod as a language learning tool has become practical since the student can hear the lesson and there is a simple microphone plug-in that allows the students to hear themselves repeat the new lesson.

### **Demonstration of latest IT equipment application in classroom**

Ms. McCarthy came forward and greeted the Committee. She explained that the SmartBoard and the iPod carts that the students use in the CGS were paid for by State funding because the CGS is a magnet school. The SmartBoards are three years old. All the language teachers have labs with 20 iPods for the students. She added that the old language labs rarely worked the way they were supposed to for the students.

Mr. Bondi asked if any of the iPods had been stolen. Ms. McCarthy explained that there had been no losses. The iPods are well marked and the students are assigned to a particular unit. If that unit is missing at the next class, the administration would know which student had it last. There were concerns that the small plug in microphones would break, but that has not proved to be the case. The items that have broken are the headsets, which are fairly inexpensive.

Ms. Li came forward and explained that she is able to teach to the level of student by using the iPods rather than having every student working at the same level. She then gave a PowerPoint presentation on how the iPods were used and had two of her students demonstrate how they worked with the iPods.

Mr. Mount asked which languages were available. Dr. Polselli said that the program was available in the standard languages studied in schools. Norwalk High would be receiving iPods. Mr. Hopp explained that this type of technology had been discussed with Mr. Valenzisi when he was in the

District. Dr. Polselli said that those teachers who utilize technology generally integrate the technology than those teachers who do not utilize technology.

The discussion then moved to the requested \$49,000, which would cover the three carts, the iPods in the units, tables and chairs.

Mr. Mount asked when the new equipment would be implemented. Dr. Victor Black, who is a professional teacher trainer, explained that it is important to have the equipment available early so that the teachers can become familiar with the new items before the students walk in the door.

Dr. Polselli pointed out that a few years ago, \$7,000 would have purchased a few computers, but now, it is nearly possible to buy all the equipment for the lab with that amount.

Ms. Li then invited the members of the Committee to come forward and try out the iPods, which they did.

*Ms. Lindstrom left the meeting at 7:10 p.m.*

#### **V. MISCELLANEOUS/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

There were no further items to discuss.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. MOUNT MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon L. Soltes  
Telesco Secretarial Services