



**DOVER SCHOOL
DISTRICT**

JOINT BUILDING COMMITTEE DOVER HIGH ATHLETIC COMPLEX MINUTES

Meeting Type:	Meeting
Meeting Location:	Superintendent's Conference Room, Room 402, McConnell Center, 61 Locust St., Dover, NH
Meeting Date:	Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Meeting Time:	5:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Meeting called to order at 5:01pm.

II. ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

- a. Present: Fergus Cullen, Linnea Nemeth, Michelle Clancy, Craig Flynn, Ronan O'Doherty, Ernie Clark.
- b. Also present were Recreation Director Gary Bannon, Principal Peter Driscoll, and Athletic Director Peter Wotton.

III. PUBLIC FORUM - No comments.

IV. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Michelle Clancy moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ronan O'Doherty. Discussion to make an edit to GMEX testing numbers. Approved 6-0.

- A. Organizational Meeting – January 31, 2024
- B. Facility Tour – February 6, 2024
- C. Facility Tours - February 16, 2024

V. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Field Trips: Discussion of site visits to Dover High, St. Thomas Aquinas, Portsmouth High, Community Campus / Portsmouth. Craig noted his biggest takeaway was the different ways [time] the schools utilize their fields. Most notably, the decision to plow or not to plow. Ernie highlighted they were more informative than he anticipated. Linnea noted she has photos from the visits, but will need to best understand how to file and share these. Discussion was had on a method to store files that was RSA-91A compliant.
- B. 2016 JBC Overview was shared. There was money in the budget to complete the field but not the track, and consensus reached was they should be done together. There was a draft design from this project that could be utilized as reference, shared with the group. The recommendation from this work in 2016 had been to proceed with artificial turf.
- C. Current participation numbers by sport - Handout was provided and reviewed. Discussion and purpose is to educate ourselves and the public on usage and reach. Not noted here is also the number of students in Band and PE classes using the fields.
- D. Current field maintenance costs - Current estimates are around \$10,000 - \$12,000 per year. This could be a potential savings, but noted there could be other costs from turf that make this neutral. Discussion also around how long it would take to grow out the grass if natural grass is used, and would need to be included in the timeline.
- E. Musco lighting proposal from 2023: Handout was provided. Director Wotton gave an overview that this was done coming out of an Athletic Conference with Vendors in attendance. Musco offered a preliminary proposal for us to get a sense of costs for the project in the pipeline. Will use it as a reference for now.



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- F. Professional design & engineering services discussion on when to bring in professional help.
 - a. Recommendation was made by Fergus to request limited scope assistance. Group consensus on it being appropriate to review facilities for what we have to work with, concerns on the wetlands and ravine.
 - b. Decision was to define a limited scope and get some preliminary design/engineering support. There is already \$200,000 allocated in the budget for this. Recommendation to use a local firm with experience for a fixed cost/fixed scope. Fergus will reach out to Legal and Finance for their advice. Ernie noted that he appreciated discussion around using local resources and expertise.
 - c. Correspondence from Ken Costello was shared that he has offered support for the project. He has experience in landscaping and Master Planning.
- G. Next action steps
 - a. Field visits to inform scope of work definition
 - i. Consensus to visit Exeter and Durham before the end of the month. Exeter for their bleachers layout.
 - ii. Group will visit other fields that are farther away individually and report back.
 - iii. Identify best natural grass facilities for visits as Plymouth, Keene, Merrimack.
 - b. Major component subject matter experts – Noted below how the group will divide:
 - i. Field surface – group
 - ii. Track - Fergus, Craig
 - iii. Lighting - Ernie, Ronan
 - iv. Grandstands/Press Box/Concessions - Michelle, Linnea
 - c. Community listening session / public hearing
 - i. Discussion on how and when to bring in the public for a listening session. Linnea shared a concern on needing more scope and direction for the project before scheduling this. Michelle seconded this concern, with group consensus.
 - ii. Ronan recommended, and it was decided to start with a Stakeholder's Listening Session first. This would include Middle School/High School athletics, Rec Programs.
 - iii. Future Public Listening will be scheduled before any major decisions are made.

VI. IDENTIFY NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME

- a. Field Visits in Durham/Exeter - February 29th
- b. Regular Meeting - March 14th 6pm
- c. Stakeholder Listening Session - March 14th 7pm

VII. ADJOURNMENT

- a. Motion made by Ronan, seconded by Michelle. Vote 6-0 to adjourn at 6:05pm.