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City of Syracuse

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Syracuse City School District

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Youth Programs
City of Syracuse

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Syracuse Common Council

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Thomas C. Ferrara, P.E.
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Syracuse City School District

Mary Robison, P.E.
City Engineer
City of Syracuse

Suzanne Slack
Chief Financial Officer
Syracuse City School District

JSCB

Joint Schools Construction Board

www.jscb.us

Minutes

Thursday, January 27, 2011
8:30 a.m.

Board Members Present: Mayor Stephanie Miner, Pat Body, Ned Deuel, Pat Hogan, Laurie Menkin, Chuck Merrihew, Matt Rayo, Van Robinson

Board Members Absent: Superintendent Dan Lowengard and Baye Muhammad

A motion was made by Chuck Merrihew to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2011 meeting. Ned Deuel seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Secretary Barry reported that he was in receipt of the SCSD's swing space resolution and that we were responding to the IDA's audit request.

Sam Tuzza delivered the report of the Program Manager. A status of each of the school projects is as follows:

Bellevue Academy at Shea Roof Project - Design & Construction Information:

- *Final compliance documentation has been submitted by Josall for review and acceptance.*
- *Final Application for Payment has been submitted to the JSCB for approval.*
- *Upon acceptance of the turnover and compliance documentation this project can be considered closed.*

Clary Roof Project - Design & Construction Information:

- *All metal flashing has been completed excluding the auditorium perimeter roof edge. Installation weather dependent.*
- *Translucent panel installation has been completed.*
- *Balance of gymnasium metal roof installation, weather dependent.*
- *New main and north storefront entrances have been installed.*
- *Contractor demobilized field office trailer and staging area fencing.*

Institute for Technology Abatement Package- Design & Construction Information:

- *JSCB executed the abatement contract to LVI on January 20, 2011 for ITC's Phase 1 Abatement Project.*
- *Construction kick off meeting conducted.*



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- *Cabinet Unit Heaters, Electric Distribution Equipment, Pre-abatement, Baseline Schedule, Site Specific Safety Plan and Abatement Work Plan submittals have been issued for review and approval.*
- *Selective Demolition is scheduled to commence this week.*

Institute for Technology Main Project- Design & Construction Information:

- *Architect/Engineer has prepared a final Mechanical and Electrical Addendum in response to NYSED review comments.*
- *Architect/Engineer prepared revisions to EPC Package in response to NYSED comments.*
- *Received NYSED approval on December 30, 2010 for Main, Technology, and EPC Projects.*
- *Constructability and NYSED comments substantially incorporated into final documents.*

Fowler - Design & Construction Information:

- *Received NYSED approval on December 10, 2010 for the Main, EPC and Technology Projects.*
- *Project commenced advertisement on January 10, 2011.*
- *Pre-bid conference was held at Fowler High School on January 25, 2011.*
- *Bid opening is scheduled for February 15, 2011.*

Dr. Weeks - Design & Construction Information:

- *Received NYSED approval on December 21, 2010 for the Main, EPC and Technology Projects.*
- *Upon confirmation of swing space and direction by the JSCB regarding financing, the schedule shall be updated.*

H.W. Smith - Design & Construction Information:

- *GBCo and the Architect have completed VE/Cost reduction estimates and presented to JSCB staff for review and approval.*
- *The Architect/Engineer has submitted additional MEP Addendum response to NYSED review comments*
- *Constructability and NYSED comments substantially incorporated into final documents.*
- *EPC Package (drawings, reconciled estimates, calculations, and narrative) was submitted to NYSED*

It may also be noted that SED made 3-4 comments on the H.W. Smith project and the Dr. Weeks project has been approved. Both the project budget and sources have increased.

Ned Deuel motioned to accept Resolution No. 2-2011 to authorize Ashley McGraw Architects PC (Clary) LFC Payment #14 in the amount of \$21,231.18. Chuck Merrihew seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Ned Deuel motioned to accept Resolution No. 3-2011 to authorize Spina Collins Scoville (Fowler) LFC Payment #12 in the amount of \$87,863.26. Pat Body seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Laurie Menkin motioned to accept Resolution No. 4-2011 to authorize Gilbane Payment #38 in the amount of \$131,044.52. Ned Deuel seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

Ned Deuel motioned to accept Resolution No. 5-2011 to authorize Syracuse Blue Print Company (Clary and Fowler) payment in the amount of \$2,414.20. Laurie Menkin seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0.

The board discussed the issue of swing space. Pat Hogan said that he would not vote to approve the bonding to support the School Board's current swing space plan to close Elmwood and Danforth. The mayor polled the school board members on the JSCB if they believed a majority would vote to approve the proposed swing space plan. Pat Body said she believed there would be enough votes for the swing space plan to pass through the Board of Education. Mayor Miner mentioned that she became aware of a procedural measure that the BOE may have violated in proposing to close Elmwood and Danforth.—a committee must be formed six months in advance to determine whether a school can be closed. Laurie Menkin answered the mayor in that the BOE is not closing these schools, rather they are being repurposed, and SED agrees with that explanation. She added that this process was also followed for Levy Middle School.

In order to approve the Tranche III bonding, the Common Council must approve it by 2/3, or with 6 votes. Dave Delvecchio stated that the bonds cannot be repurposed for other projects. Laurie Menkin reminded the board that in order for construction to proceed on schedule, there needs to be money in the bank, so the board should proceed to borrow Tranche III. The Mayor responded that the board cannot move forward with bonding without swing space, which still has not been resolved. The Mayor emphasized the Council's willingness to try to resolve the swing space issue as exemplified by their votes to approve the Syracuse Developmental Center lease. The Council was assured by the Superintendent and Board of Education that the deal they negotiated would close. Laurie Menkin said that the Board of Education does not need Council approval to move forward with their swing space plan.

Deputy Superintendent Chris Vogelsang delivered a presentation detailing the options the School District has when the state designates schools as Persistently Low Achieving (PLA). The District can close the school, turn it into a charter school, remove half of the staff, or replace the principal. Both Elmwood and Danforth could be classified as PLA schools, so Chris Vogelsang argued that preemptively repurposing them as swing space may spare the District from these four state-mandated options.

The board began discussions about the status of the \$1M from the NYS Dormitory Authority which the District hopes to use toward renovating Blodgett. Suzanne Slack reported that she had a discussion with Ahmed Ciomande from

the state Office of Fiscal Accountability in which she was told Senator Valesky's office is holding the \$1M in funding per the City's directive. Mayor Miner reminded the board that the \$1M was given by Senator Malcolm Smith in June of 2009 when he was the majority leader, and now he and the Democrats no longer have that power, thus why the funds are likely being held. The Mayor offered to make inquiries about this delay, as she is unaware of any directives to hold the funding.

Joe Barry reminded the board that funds presently budgeted for Blodgett may be used as a contingency for other projects.

Pat Hogan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Van Robinson seconded the motion and all were in favor.