

**GRAND FORKS SCHOOL BOARD
FACILITIES COMMITTEE
GRAND FORKS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #1
MEETING MINUTES
February 18, 2019**

A meeting of the Grand Forks School Board Facilities Committee was held on Monday, February 18, 2019, at the Mark Sanford Education Center Committee Chair Cynthia Shabb presiding.

Committee Members Present: Chris Douthit (via phone), Eric Lunn, Cynthia Shabb, Dr. Terry Brenner, Scott J. Berge, Jody Thompson, Chris Arnold, and Eric Ripley.

Committee Members Absent: Shannon Mikula, Branden Shepperd, Catherine Gillach, Tricia Lee, and Joel Schleicher.

Others Present: Meeting Secretary Cindy Johnson.

Call to Order. The meeting was called to order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Minutes. It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Shabb approve the minutes of January 14, 2019, as written. Motion carried with all voting members present voting aye. Absent: Mikula.

Executive Corners. Brenner summarized that the last time this committee met, the committee discussed a donation of \$120,000 that Pure Development was going to make in exchange for seven additional parking stalls for the downtown Hugo's development. District Administration supported the proposal if the donation was going to be used to fund the development and construction of the Executive Corners (EC) lot, but after the last School Board meeting, it appeared that was not the case.

Thompson reported that after visiting with the developers after the last school board meeting, all three partners preferred the donation be used solely for EC and if not EC, they then preferred the donation be used for a

north-end school. Thompson pointed out that the donation would cover two-thirds of the cost to develop surface parking at EC. He explained that it has been a long-term goal of the district and school board to develop Executive Corners as surface parking as a way to control the district's downtown parking by decreasing parking on the street or in the ramp, and to address equitable parking concerns for Grand Forks Central High School (GFC) as compared to Red River High School. Thompson said that the District has the funds for the project and can complete it as soon as this spring and summer. The District's perspective is still in favor of moving ahead with the development of surface parking at EC.

Responses to questions about developing EC into surface parking from committee members included the following:

- Berge estimated the cost savings from reduced ramp parking could be approximately \$20,000 per year, depending upon the number of spaces not rented;
- Arnold estimated the overall cost at \$180,000;
- EC would be used for only student parking and is a more secure space than current options,
- Enough space would still be available for transient parking in the Century Link lot,
- GFC staff would not lose any parking stalls, and
- GFC administration supports the project.

It was moved by Lunn and seconded by Douthit to designate the \$120,000 donation to develop surface parking at EC as soon as possible and to forward the request to the school board with a recommendation for approval. Motion carried with all voting members present voting aye. Absent: Mikula.

Thompson reported that he had hoped to bring the Pure Development lease to the

February 25 School Board meeting but the developer has been out of country so it likely won't be ready for the March 11 School Board meeting.

Ruth Meiers Adolescent Center (RMAC).

Thompson gave the following update:

- The District has met with the architect and Housing Authority,
- The Building Trades instructor has the final project drawings, and
- The District is working with its attorney and the Housing Authority attorney on a lease agreement and Construction Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which likely will not be ready for the February 25 School Board meeting but will be ready for the March 11 School Board meeting.

Ripley reported that site work needed to begin as soon as the ground thaws.

Herald Lease Update. Arnold gave the following update:

- February 4 was the official start date of the lease,
- Students moved in the week of February 11,
- Teachers and staff love the space,
- There are a couple of wrinkles with the internet and accessibility items which Community Contractors' team is working on (a door has been cut through so buses can pull up next to the building and more walls are being installed on the Herald side to subdivide common space), and
- Overall, it has been a great project and everyone is comfortable with it.

Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:47 p.m.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

Cynthia Shabb, Committee Chair