

**North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200**  
Minutes of the Facilities-Long Range Planning Committee Meeting  
District Office  
6248 North Boone School Road  
Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065  
Tuesday, October 29, 2013  
4:00 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Tom Moon at 4:04 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Mr. Tom Moon, Mr. Matt Ellingson, Dr. Steven Baule, Mr. Jim Novak and Mrs. Rhonda Boeke. The following Committee members were absent: Mrs. Kelly Hanaman, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Steve Cashman, Mr. Jake Hubert, Mr. Dale Purvis, Mrs. Jeannine Plath, Mrs. Deb Torrison, Mr. Butch Peters, Mr. Alan Johnson and Mr. Bob Balgemann were also present.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

Mr. Alan Johnson feels our facilities really need upgrading. For example, we've had high jumpers and triple jumpers qualify for state, but we have nowhere for them to practice or compete. He also mentioned the football team's participation and record could be improved if we had a better facility, and was concerned that the soccer field is dangerous, with holes in the field and the lack of grass. He thought we would need to put at least \$20,000 into that field alone to make it playable. Mr. Johnson feels the fields are classrooms, too. Not only for PE, but when sports conclude, discipline issues rise. He'd like to see us have a field that would make us proud. Dr. Baule thanked Mr. Johnson for the considerable amount of time and energy he donates in maintaining the football field.

**STADIUM PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Steve Cashman shared that we began the project in December 2012 with a stadium design team. They put together a program questionnaire that identified four potential locations. There were 96 respondents. This document was used to propose the stadium, bleacher capacity, number of track lanes and facilities. The committee also compared other conference schools and toured non-conference stadiums, with all conference schools having more seating than North Boone's bleacher capacity of 430. Mr. Cashman said estimates were based on data, and from there a site plan was developed. They are proposing an eight-lane track with a fenced perimeter and a north/south oriented field.

Mr. Cashman then addressed the budget sheet, stating the only way to reduce cost is to reduce the scope. We could make reductions by eliminating concessions, reducing the home bleachers from 1,500 to 1,000, and could raise the visitor area and use portable bleachers. There would be a \$260,000 savings using natural grass vs. turf, however that option would eliminate the ability to use the field for other sports and youth leagues. Mr. Dale Purvis has been in contact with the company that supplied Rockford School District with turf for their high school fields. He also

shared that DeKalb rents their turf field for \$200 per hour and last year they made \$118,000 in rentals. Mr. Purvis mentioned hosting regional and sectional track meets could be lucrative if we had a great facility. Dr. Baule noted that artificial turf is more forgiving than grass and that these newer surfaces mimic natural grass. He also felt that as a small school, we could become more competitive in cross country and track if we had a better facility. Mr. Johnson noted that in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, we have 50-60 track athletes, but by high school, we only have about 10 or so go out for track. Mr. Matt Ellingson said he felt like no money has been invested in the current field, and stated we have a donor for the 30 pine trees lost due to storms. Mr. Cashman said the cost to upgrade vs. building is in the same range considering the earth work. One of the issues with the current field is it cannot accommodate soccer, as it is too narrow. Mr. Hubert asked if it was possible to move concessions to the northwest corner by the baseball field, and was told by Mr. Cashman that was an option. Mr. Ward mentioned that land was purchased for another 2,000 student building, wondered where that building would fit into this stadium proposal, and if we could see a footprint of the future school. Dr. Baule responded that the original plan was the current high school would become a 7-8 grade building and we would build another high school in 20 or more years. He also noted that the Upper Elementary was built to accommodate an expansion. Mr. Cashman will provide a footprint of the future school, which was part of the 2005 plan, and will investigate if we can slide the stadium to the north to accommodate that projected building.

Mr. Cashman suggested starting the fundraising process soon, and that lots of schools are selling reserved seating as a fundraiser. Mr. Purvis is also planning to send letters to alumni if the project moves forward.

### **SECURITY AND SAFETY PROJECTS**

Mr. Novak mentioned the District is reviewing security upgrades including the phone system, card access, PA system, video surveillance and re-keying all facilities. Mr. Cashman and Mr. Novak will define the scope and decide the initiatives in which they will move forward. Currently, they are in the information gathering stage. The goal is to obtain security bids in January 2014.

### **OTHER DISCUSSION ITEMS**

*(No Other Discussion Items)*

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next Facilities-Long Range Planning Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Submitted by:

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Tom Moon, Chair