

**East Longmeadow Pool Building Committee  
School Committee Conference Room and Zoom Meeting  
January 17, 2024 – 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM**

Attendees:

Cora Gauvin, Pool Building Committee Chair  
Gordon Smith, Superintendent of Schools  
Stephen Chrusciel, School Building Committee Chair (Joined at 12:06 PM)  
Donna Prather, Recreation Director  
Kevin Magee, School Athletic Director  
Greg Thompson, School Committee Chair  
Charles Grey, Community Member (Absent)  
Matthew Boucher, Town Council Member  
Bruce Fenney, DPW Superintendent (Absent)

Other Attendees:

Skanska USA Building, Inc.: Ben Murphy (virtual), Victoria Clifford (virtual)  
Design Team (JWA/SMMA): Dorrie Brooks, Aviva Galaski (virtual), Brian Black

**Welcome & Approval of Meeting Minutes**

- Cora opened the meeting at 12:03 PM.
- **Cora asked for a motion to approve the 12/14/23 Meeting Minutes. Kevin Magee made the motion. Donna Prather seconded the motion.**
  - Cora called the vote. The following members voted in the affirmative: Cora Gauvin, Donna Prather, Greg Thompson, Kevin Magee, Matthew Boucher, Gordon Smith,
  - The following members were absent: Charles Grey, Stephen Chrusciel, Bruce Fenney.
  - **The motion passed.**

Steve Chrusciel joined at 12:06 PM.

**Design Updates**

- Dorrie gave a recap of the Minnechaug visit and reported it was helpful for the design team.
- Dorrie noted that we are closer in size to the Minnechaug pool building than West Springfield pool building.
- Lessons learned from the Minnechaug project:
  - Issues with lighting. Daylight is not optimized. When natural light is gone, too dark in the building. Not enough artificial lighting to compensate.
  - Issues with deck ponding, lack of deck drain.
  - Stainless steel doors maintenance challenges.
  - Water temp set point – Minnechaug favors the swim team (cooler temp). Community users prefer a warmer temp.
  - Minnechaug recommend adding speakers/sound system.
    - Included in our project.
  - Noted buildup of chlorine gas fumes in winter due to ventilation issues.
  - Minnechaug raised conference with tile breakage and grout stains.

- Dorrie noted that the team is not convinced there are betting options available. Will look at dark grout to mitigate stain concerns.
- Sizing comparison:
  - Width same or similar
  - 5 rows of visitor seating – similar
  - Stainless gutters (TBD)
  - Deck drain – ELHS to include
  - Deck sloping – EHLSH to have slopped drains
  - ELHS to have walk out section
  - Aiming for better lighting
  - Obscured windows/limited daylighting – TBD
  - Acoustic ceiling and acoustic block – TBD
  - Colorado timing system – same or similar
  - Installed speakers – same
  - Deep end ledge – optional
  - Poor ventilation/chlorine buildup – ELHS aiming for better
- Dorrie reviews pool geometry and pool deck plan
  - Cora asked if we can include ledge at the deep end pool wall?
    - Design team to investigate.
- Gutter Design Review:
  - Team reviews combo of steel and concrete and found it was not viable.
  - Deep recessed gutter system:
    - Cheaper to build
    - More common for outdoor setting
    - Noise increase from echoes
    - Harder to exit pool
    - Not recommended for this project by Aquatic Design
      - Greg asked if we could pursue concrete as a deck material
        - Dorrie answered no, it is only recommended for outdoors. Wouldn't dry properly and hard to clean.
  - Deck level concrete gutter system:
    - Easier/cheaper to bid/install
    - Easier to exit pool
    - Faster swim times/less chop
    - Harder to see wall
    - Requires higher diving blocks
    - Easier for balls to fly out
    - Easier for waves and overflow
    - Recommended by Aquatic Design
      - Cora noted that gutters work better for younger kids because they are not able to grab on to small lip of this gutter option
  - Dorrie asked for direction from the committee moving forward. Committee agreed they were OK moving forward with the recommended deck level gutter system.
  - Daylighting Update:
    - Brian Black gave an overview of the natatorium exterior design.
    - Brain gave recommendations on window placement based on the daylight studies
    - Proposed including windows for daylight, with remote sunshades to control glare for swim meets
    - Ben Murphy, Skanska, asked if we reviewed opaque glass.
    - Dorrie pointed out opaque glass option.

- John Benzinger, Skanska, notes issue on previous projects with exterior sunshades.
- Option 1 – translucent glazing on west façade
- Option 2 – east clerestory
- Option 3 – eight tubular daylight devices (solatube)
- Dorrie noted that artificial lighting has come along way since the Minnechaug project.
- Dorrie asked what the usage hours will be for the pool?
  - Donna – Morning with lap swims (7AM).
  - Kevin – General usage for school is 9 AM – 9 PM.
- Greg asked that we make sure to include enough artificial light and supplement with natural light.
  - Dorrie noted that we would like to optimized the natural light for biological and cost benefits.
- Next Steps:
  - Aquatic Design is ready to move into detailed pool drawings
  - Target February to meet with coaches/staff/manager to spec pool equipment/FF&E
    - Gordon provided Dorrie with a list of staff to meet with
  - Cora brought up concern with seating for dual meets. Can there be comfortable overflow in the vestibule for chairs/tables/concession?
    - Dorrie to look into. Dorrie suggested using the alt PE space as overflow area – to bring up with the SBC. Potential to look at changing flooring from wood to rubber.
  - Greg noted that we should move away from stainless steel doors and explore fiberglass, due to high maintenance cost of stainless steel.
    - Dorrie agreed to look into.
  - Stephen asked who the lighting designer is?
    - HLB (Third-Party)

Next Meeting:

- 1/26, 2 PM

**Kevin Magee made a motion to adjourn. Matt Boucher seconded.**

- Cora called the vote. The following members voted in the affirmative: Cora Gauvin, Donna Prather, Greg Thompson, Kevin Magee, Matthew Boucher, Gordon Smith, Stephen Chrusciel,
- The following members were absent: Charles Grey, Bruce Fenney.

**The motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:15 PM.**