

**Salem Public Schools
Salem School Committee
BUILDING & GROUNDS SUBCOMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2021**

On May 24, 2021 the Building & Grounds Subcommittee held its regular meeting using the Zoom on-line meeting platform.

Members In Attendance: Mr. Fleming and Ms. Mary Manning

Members Absent: Mr. Manny Cruz

Others in Attendance: Superintendent Stephen Zrike, Ms. Mary DeLai, Mr. Ryan Monks, Colonel Jason Beaudoin and Sergeant Major Sumner

Call of Meeting to Order

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am

Marksmanship Range at Salem High School

Dr. Zrike explained that a few months ago there was a complaint placed for where the marksmanship program was being held. This issue was raised to the media and brought to the attention of the School Committee. Dr. Zrike added that this program is still being held in schools in Massachusetts.

Colonel Beaudoin explained that the program consists of color guard, drill team and the marksmanship program. He added that air rifles are used in the marksmanship program, which cannot be heard. He added that these rifles have been used for over 50 years and there has never been an injury. He said the program was originally located in the cafeteria after school, but was then moved to an empty locked classroom, which allowed for the room to remain set up and saved time on moving all the equipment from storage to the cafeteria. He added that the program runs all summer and the students who participate can earn scholarships and also allows them a space for them to spend time.

Ms. Manning voiced concerns regarding the fact that the program was being run for years in the cafeteria and no one noticed, but since it was moved, people complained. It was explained that the reason they were moved was because of COVID and the cafeteria was being used as classrooms. In addition, the classroom has been certified by the Marine Corps for use of the marksmanship program.

Mr. Fleming believes the use of the classroom is better than moving all the equipment everyday.

Ms. Manning made a motion to continue the JROTC marksmanship program in the Salem High School cafeteria. Mr. Fleming seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Manning Yes
Mr. Fleming No
Motion 1-1

It was decided that Mr. Fleming will provide a report and will be voted on at the next School Committee meeting.

Capital Improvement Requests

Assistant Superintendent DeLai presented a spreadsheet outlining the capital projects and she explained how much the City will provide for each project. She also shared a list of which projects have been approved and which have not. Mr. Fleming asked several questions regarding why funds were not spent in the previous years they were approved. Mr. Monks explained that this is a common practice and money will be put into an account and will not be lost at the end of the year if not spent. Ms. DeLai added that by the time projects are approved during Budget season in June, it may take several months to receive quotes for the work. By that time, because school is in session, the work would need to wait until the summer. She added that this past year time and energy was spent with HVAC issues due to COVID. Mr. Fleming commented that since the high school was used as a COVID shelter, can some of the relief funds be used to repair the floor? Dr. Zrike stated that some of the stimulus funds that were received may be used, but they are still unclear if some projects qualify.

Mr. Fleming requested a mid-year status report for capital funds going forward.

Ms. Manning made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:13 am. Mr. Fleming seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Ms. Manning Yes
Mr. Fleming Yes
Motion carries 2-0

Respectfully submitted by,

Nancy A. Weiss

Executive Assistant to the School Committee

Approved June 18, 2021