

GROTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL FINANCE/FACILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 18, 2022 @ 6:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Members Present: Jay Weitlauf, Beverly Washington, Dean Antipas (arrived at 6:45 p.m.)

Also Present: Susan Austin, Sam Kilpatrick, Ken Knight

Chairman Weitlauf called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m.

1. Review September 6, 2022 Meeting Minutes - The minutes were reviewed and accepted as presented.
2. Discussion re: the BOE Covering the Cost of Reduced Meals @ CB, NEA, & FHS - Mr. Knight reviewed the updated cost of covering the meal prices for students that qualify for reduced meal prices for the FY23 school year. Due to the SMART funds, the district anticipates being able to pay for all student's meal prices for a portion of the year, currently estimated at 40%. Based on this and an assumption on the participation rate, the estimated cost is around \$8,000. The committee recommends this be forwarded to the full board.
3. Review Mentor Director Stipend/Job Description - Ms. Austin reviewed the mentor program and the job description for the new Mentor Director position. This position would be compensated through a stipend. The stipend will be funded through the ARP ESSER. Four strong candidates were interviewed. It is anticipated that this program will be slowly rolled out over the remainder of this year and will be fine-tuned over the summer. The position will be reevaluated after ARP ESSER to determine if it's still needed.
4. Tree House Tuition Update - Mr. Knight discussed the Tree House tuition. Tree House tuition rates were increased at the April BOE meeting effective for the 2022-23 school year. It was reported that enrollment has increased from the budgeted enrollment by 13%. No reports on the financial impact were reviewed as the new year has just begun.
5. Review Culinary Arts Architectural Plan - Mr. Kilpatrick discussed the status of the Fitch High culinary arts architectural plans. The architectural firm, SLAM, had been waiting on information from the high school staff to schedule this work. It is anticipated the work on the plans will commence in 3-4 weeks from now. Delivery of the plans will not happen until towards the end of the calendar year. This project will more than likely not make the FY24 CIP.
6. Field House Study Update - Mr. Kilpatrick reviewed the field house study. The design firm offered the attached two options; either renovate existing buildings or build new. Conceptual designs and costs were reviewed (see attached). It was discussed if there might be state funding to help offset the cost. A meeting is being planned with the town to discuss how this might fit into the town-wide field committee's work.

7. GMS Field Lights Update - Mr. Kilpatrick discussed the field lights at Groton Middle School. The design firm and electrical contractor are meeting with school staff before the end of this month to go over the plans. It is anticipated this project will be started in the spring, with the majority of the construction over the summer and available for use next fall.
8. Solar Panel Update - Mr. Kilpatrick discussed the solar panel project at Groton Middle and Mystic River Elementary schools. The final comments have been submitted to the attorneys and will be presented to Green Bank. We anticipate signing the power purchase agreement (PPA) shortly. It is anticipated the solar panels will be in place well before the start of the next school year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

DESIGN OPTION 1

OPTION 1 OVERVIEW

Option 1 renovates the boys locker room on the lower floor of the field house, and the open team room on the second floor. This will provide 140 large lockers and 42 double tier lockers in 3 separate team areas, renovated bathrooms, shower facilities and a coaches' office.

A new two-story field house is connected to the existing building via a double height public lobby addition. The lobby includes an elevator that provides accessibility to both sides, and a shared trainers room at the entry level.

There are adequate public restrooms at the lower level of the new building, there is a girls locker room with equal amenities as the renovated boys locker room, a coaches' office, gender neutral locker room, and athletic equipment storage. At the west side of the addition and accessed from the exterior, the second floor provides another team room, storage, officials and athletic support spaces.

The existing concession stand is renovated to maximize space for food preparation, storage and serving, along with a public exterior dining area. The remainder will function as equipment storage.

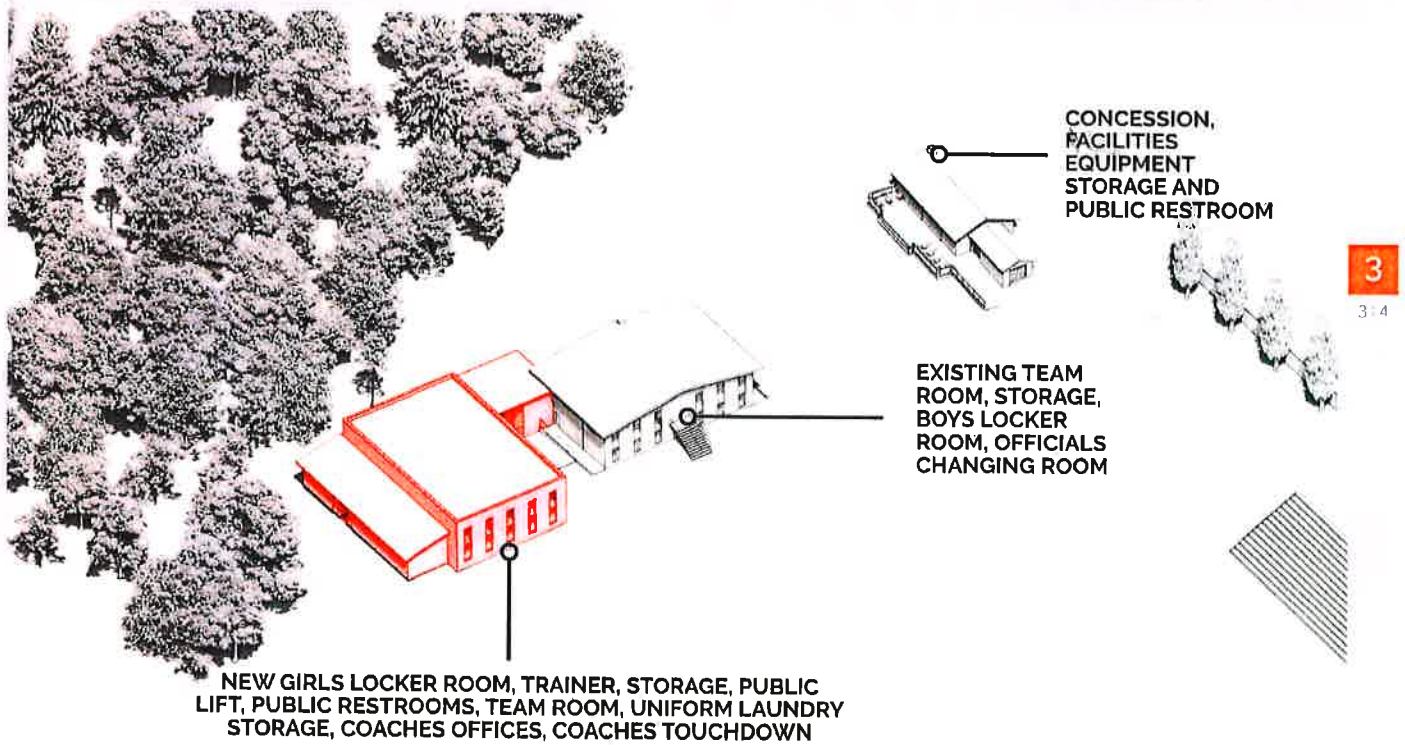


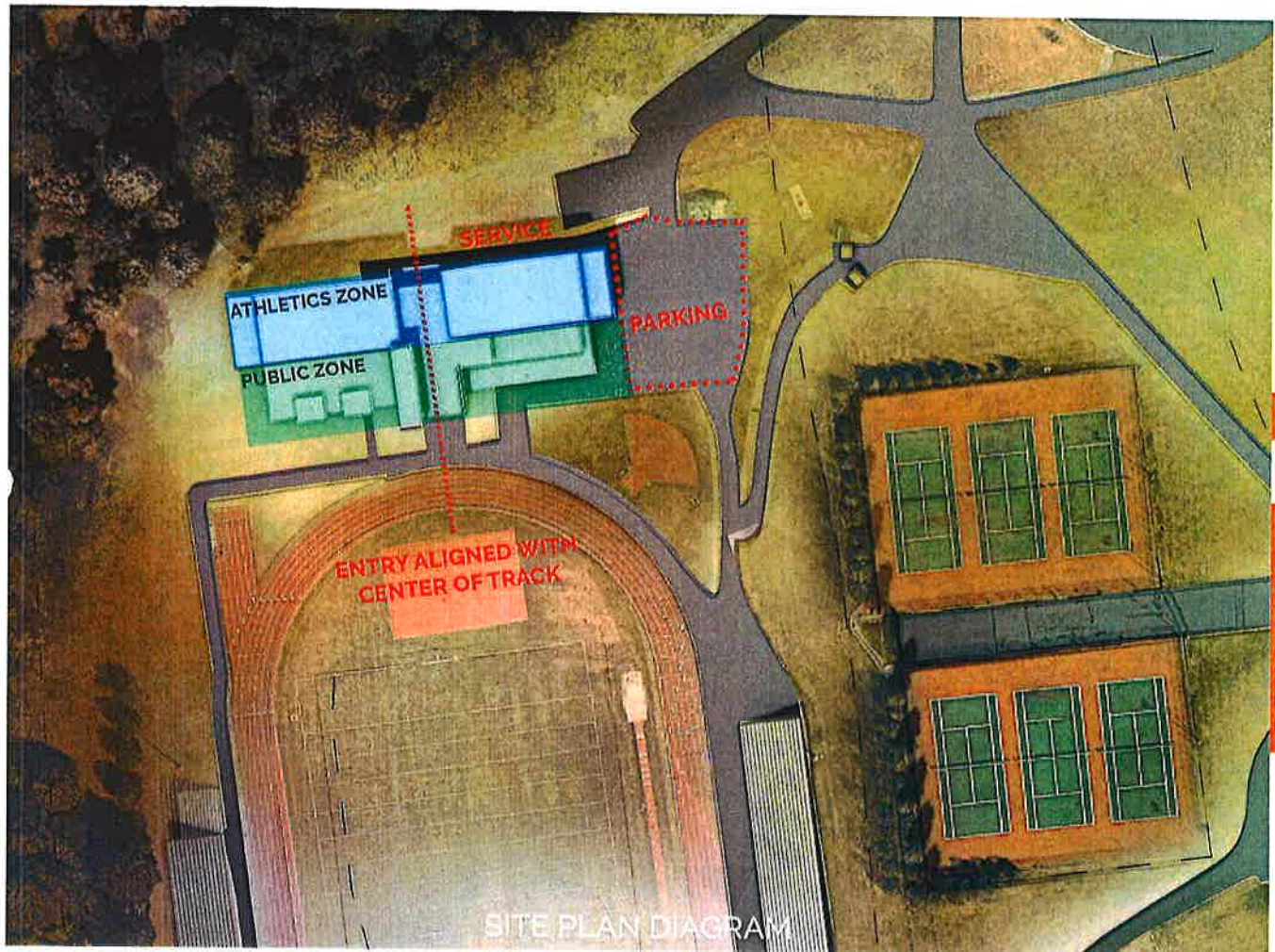


RENOVATION



NEW CONSTRUCTION





4 CONCEPTUAL BUDGETS

4:17



ATHLETICS LOCKER ROOM STUDY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Project Name: Groton - Fitch HS Locker Rooms

Estimate: Conceptual Budget 02

Draft Review: June 28, 2022

Date: Refer to "Draft Review" date

Description		
<u>Option 1</u>		
1a - Reno & Addition to Field House	\$	8,567,966
1b - Renovate Concession	\$	932,322
Total Construction Cost - Option 1:		\$ 9,500,288
<u>Option 2</u>		
New Building	\$	15,490,284
Remove existing Field House & Concessions		in above
Total Construction Cost - Option 2:		\$ 15,490,284