

LAND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 4, 2017

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA
2017 MAY 10 PM 4:04

Meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

Member Attendees: Lauren Meier, Michele Gougeon, Andy Healy, Steve Kidder, Jeff North, Tom Grimble

Other Attendees: Belmont Day School representatives: Brendan Largay, Brit Dewey, Kelly Durfee Cardoza, Bob Corning
Community Members: Don Leavitt, John G. Serino, Mark Carthy

Brendan presented and stated that BDS is looking for feedback from the Committee as to concerns, interests, etc. Provided an overview of history of BDS. Bursting at seams as a school – need space. Parents looking for different experience for 11 or 12 year olds – very different from what 4 or 5 year olds need.

Last April Board made decision to add 40-45 kids to 6, 7 and 8th grades. This increase in enrollment would bring the school to 310 students.

Looking for new space – decided wanted to build a new building – need to honor mission of school and provide experience. The building would have two basketball courts; provide great flexibility on scheduling side. Needs to be building that every student uses – athletics, arts and academics – 27,000 SF in size.

Would also like to construct a second driveway from Concord Avenue to back side of campus and lead to new building. Would be one-way street with parallel parking on new street. This second access would help avoid problems such as occurred last year when a tree fell on Day School Lane and shut off access to school.

There are currently 127 parking spaces – will lose some spaces but overall will end up with 131 total. One goal is to decrease congestion on Day School Lane. The School has met with a number of Town Departments including the Office of Community Development, the Police Department and the Fire Department. Police Department felt this was a serious improvement over current situation.

Consultant reported that traffic study did not indicate need for traffic light. Number of additional trips is not significant.

Discussion was held and questions from LMC and public attendees were addressed.

Neighbor raised issue that BDS wants to call new entrance a driveway rather than a road in order to avoid issues associated with being a road.

Consultant – have met with Glenn Clancy – no obligation for driveway to be called a road because not subdividing land – putting a driveway into property they owned. Glenn reportedly thought Bd of Survey would not want to consider this a road. Questions concerning lighting on the site and stormwater drainage issues were also discussed.

The School also reported that a 3rd neighborhood meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, January 25th. Plan is to submit filing with the Planning Board within 30 days and would like to break ground in late summer or early fall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Recorded by Steve Kidder