

**Preliminary Rink Design Committee (PRDC)  
Final Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, May 26, 2022  
Virtual Zoom Meeting  
7:30 AM**

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: July 11, 2022  
TIME: 2:46 PM

*Preliminary Rink Design Committee (PRDC) Members Virtually Attending:*

Mark Haley, William Shea, Stephen Sala, Meg Moriarty, Frank French, Dante Muzzioli, Tom Caputo

*From CHA:* Tom Gatzunis, Don White

Others: Ted Galante (and members of the Galante team)

**I. Call to Order of the Preliminary Rink Design Committee (PRDC)**

The Preliminary Rink Design Committee meeting (#20) was called to order at 7:35 a.m. by Chair Haley.

**II. Review of Current Proposals Put Forth by Architect and Updates**

Chair Haley informed the PRDC that last night's Select Board meeting went well; the Select Board understand the program and what a renovation will entail. They have concerns about placing the rink close to Concord Ave. The White Field House (WFH) will be included in the charge for the *next* Rink Committee. The fields and parking will not fall under their charge. The PRDC briefly discussed the reductions of scope made by the High School Building Committee planning pertaining to this area, e.g., leaving the fields as they are and not taking down the WFH. Mr. Caputo explained that this (the jettisoning of these items by the HS Building Committee) was due to cost escalations in other areas.

Chair Haley asked Mr. Galante to display renovate/expand photos from the *Belmont Athletic Complex Feasibility Study Draft*.

Chair Haley then raised the issue of the total budget number for this proposed project. He discussed the need to identify clearly the "nice to haves" and the "need to have" items. Doing so will help establish the budget number, i.e., building out the costs. Mr. Gatzunis asked – does *need* include youth hockey and Rec. Dept. programs? It should, he offered. Chair Haley agreed and added that most of these items should fall under "need to have". Mr. Caputo said we should circle back to the Superintendent and the Athletic Director (AD) concerning the WFH and locker room space. He asked: what are the consequences of *not* putting locker rooms into this space? He emphasized that he understands the need for locker rooms, but it does add to the cost. Mr. Muzzioli expressed his concern of keeping locker rooms in the scope of this project and their impact on the overall costs.

The issue of locker rooms, where they are placed and who pays for them, was explored by the PRDC.

Mr. Galante then referenced several "conceptional section" photos from the "renovate/expand" design. Chair Haley asked about the space that will exist after the WFH comes down. He wondered if parking would go into that space or perhaps the "mechanicals" could be placed there. He then discussed the jug handle parking spaces and if they could be reconfigured to be angled, in order to create more space.

FINAL

Mr. Galante offered some details on parking spaces. Mr. Gatzunis provided additional parking information. They have been counting cars in the jug handle and those parked on Concord Ave. The 90-parking space number was a maximum number put in place by the Planning Board -- (with 30 spaces as a minimum). Ms. Moriarty noted that this issue will need to be brought back to the School Committee for a vote, at some point.

The issue of parking spaces and parking options was explored by the PRDC.

Mr. French raised the issue of the timeline, for the near future. He asked if costs would be presented to Town Meeting (TM) in June? Chair Haley replied, no. The TM presentation will be similar to last evening's Select Board presentation. The Select Board will need to vote to allow a debt exclusion for this project. They will need a number, but that number could be provided around Labor Day. The issue of the Library and Rink being on the same ballot was raised. Mr. Caputo confirmed that combining these two projects on the same ballot is a possibility.

Chair Haley briefly discussed TM Article 8. He then asked if the current PRDC members would like to be appointed to the Rink Building Committee. He asked that members think about it. The moderator will probably appoint members to the Rink Building Committee in late June. This committee (PRDC) will not disband until the new committee is up and running.

Mr. Caputo requested more specific budget numbers, soon. He also requested a week-by-week schedule and accounting of what needs to be done, i.e., a look-ahead for the next several weeks, including community meetings, Planning Board meeting, a meeting with the School Committee, etc. This all needs to be put on paper. Mr. Gatzunis said he would work to create a schedule, with all the milestones laid out, from June until November.

A rink location (with programs) should be identified soon, said Chair Haley, in response to a question raised by Mr. Muzzioli. Mr. Galante added he is ready to work toward whatever deadline will allow them to "hit all the marks".

### **III. Public Comments**

Mr. Iler, School Street, expressed concern about the "sticker shock" number of the project. Operating costs need to be understood (and identified) as well as the potential financial offset offered by solar.

### **IV. New Business – *Approval of PRDC Meeting Minutes***

The PRDC meeting minutes of the following dates were unanimously approved:

- 2/17/22
- 2/28/22
- 3/2/22
- 3/3/22
- 3/10/22
- 3/24/22
- 4/7/22 – morning
- 4/7/22 – evening

FINAL

- 5/3/22
- 5/19/22

## **V. Adjournment**

Chair Haley ended the PRDC meeting at 8:30 a.m., following a motion made by Mr. Muzzioli.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lisa Gibalerio

Approved:    \_ Meghan Moriarty \_  
                  Meg Moriarty, Secretary

\_\_\_\_July 11, 2022\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

FINAL