

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
HULL PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
HULL, MA 02045

SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
MINUTES  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2016

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Stephanie Peters  
Eric Hipp  
Marianne Harte  
David Twombly  
Kelley Huxtable

OTHERS PRESENT

Kathleen I. Tyrell, Superintendent of Schools  
Diane Saniuk, Finance Coordinator

The meeting was held during the Conservation Commission's meeting. Stephanie Peters made a motion to open the meeting at 8:03 p.m. David Twombly seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous to open the meeting.

Mr. John Perry from Gale Associates presented plans for the proposed synthetic turf field and walking track to the Conservation Commission. The Conservation Commission raised concerns of a significant ocean storm allowing ocean surge to flood the field and potentially wash the tire crumb infill into the ocean. They also questioned the drainage system and wanted assurances that rain water would not roll off the field in sheets and allow runoff to get into the ocean. Mr. Perry assured the Commission that the drainage system would be able to handle rain water in excess of the 100 year storm levels, without allowing a buildup of water. Audience members raised concerns about tire crumb as an infill and potential harmful health effects on children. Mr. Perry reiterated his belief that the tire crumb is safe, and that alternative infill's are no safer than the tire crumb. It is the opinion of Gale Associates that organic infill's, in particular, create more problems than they solve. The Commission reminded the audience that questions about the safety of tire crumb are outside their responsibility. They are only making a ruling on whether or not it will have an adverse impact on the coastal waterway and natural habitats.

The Commission continued the hearing for two weeks in order to allow for an independent engineer to evaluate the proposed drainage system and assess the likelihood of infill material running off the field and into the ocean.

The School Committee continued to meet after the Conservation Commission adjourned. There was discussion around the pros and cons of going out to bid as scheduled on March 2, 2016.

The Committee sees the value in having real numbers and information that the bids will provide. Concern was raised about going out to bid without getting approval from the Conservation Commission. Mr. Perry advised that it is okay to go out to bid and there are a number of ways to handle any potential conditions the Commission may impose. The date the bids close can be extended and an addendum can be added to the RFP including any conditions the Commission recommends. Alternatively, the bids can close and a contract can be awarded and then a change order can be issued. School Committee members agree that it can be costly to issue a change order and that they prefer the option of extending the closing date.

Ms. Huxtable reiterated her concerns with tire crumb as an infill.

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters  
Move to send the turf field and walking track project to bid as designed.  
**Vote:** 4-1-0 Kelley Huxtable opposed

**Second:** David Twombly

**Motion:** Stephanie Peters  
Move to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 pm.  
**Vote:** 5-0-0

**Second:** Eric Hipp

These Minutes of a meeting of the  
Hull School Committee were  
approved and adopted by the  
Committee on March 7, 2016.

David Twombly, Secretary  
Hull School Committee