

Hubble Middle School Committee
April 21, 2004

Minutes

Dr. Catalani welcomed members and thanked them for volunteering to participate in this important task. He asked the group to remember that the work of the committee should be driven by what's best for our students. He then reviewed the charge of the committee as approved by the Board of Education.

Denie Young reviewed the contents of the notebook that was given to each committee member. Dr. Catalani then delivered a power point presentation that compared the processes used for the high school study and middle school study, noting that they are very similar. His presentation also included an historical look at the public discussions that have taken place about the middle schools and Hubble in particular since 1999.

Questions raised by members of the committee include:

1. Can we use forest preserve land as a site for a new school?
Dr. Catalani indicated that the District had contacted the forest preserve and was told that it is not their policy to sell or lease property to other units of government. Several other members confirmed the forest preserve's lack of interest in sharing their land. Dr. Catalani indicated, however, that further contacts can be made regarding this issue.
2. Is there other land available for the new middle school?
Dr. Catalani said he has had three or four discussions with other property owners in the southwest part of the District regarding the sale of property.
3. What is the minimum acreage needed for a new middle school?
Eleven (11) acres.
4. Does the District have condemnation rights?
Yes.
5. Does the District have current enrollment projections so we can accurately predict the number of middle school students in the future.
The most recent projections are five years old. We will contact Dr. John Kasarda to update the projections.
6. What would the loss of Hubble mean to the Park District?
Ray Morrill indicated the preservation of the open areas on the site is the biggest issue for the park district because they need the ball fields. The loss of the gyms would be an inconvenience, but programs offered there could be relocated to other schools.
7. How much of the property is flood plain?
Bill Farley reported that slightly less than half of the property is considered flood plain.

Questions to be researched for next meeting:

- What options does the District have for Hubble other than selling it?
- How is the committee's work impacted by the Open Meetings Act and FOIA?
- Liz Corry will talk with the Wheaton City Council to determine where the city stands on TIFFING the Hubble property. She will also try to find out how much money the city may be willing to donate for the construction of the new middle school.

- Dave Brummel and Dave Schultz will report on the City of Warrenville's position on the purchase or donation of land for the new school.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 19 at 7 p.m. at Hubble Middle School

Legat Architects will be at that meeting to identify the Life Safety deficiencies in the building. Please bring calendars on the 19th to plan future meetings.