

Wilton Democratic Town Committee

September 2, 2008 Minutes

Town Hall

Attendance:

John Kalamarides, Deborah McFadden, Tom Burgess, Fred Herot, Lois Alcosser, Hermon Telyan, Paul Burnham, Toni Lee, Dan Troph, Dave Borglum, Kathleen Warner, Charlie Lewis, Eric Fanwick, Barbara Massey-Bear

Guests:

Karen Birck, Bruce Hampson, Gil Bray, Harrison Telyan, Michael Sachse

Call to order: 7:30 pm

Presentation to the Proposed Wilton High School Renovations:

By: Karen Birck, Chair of the Bd of Ed and Bruce Hampson

WILTON HIGH SCHOOL BUILDING PROJECT

WHAT: A proposed \$20.5 million building project at the Wilton High School to address renovations that were deferred from the 2001 WHS Building Project

Three Major Objectives of the Project:

- Refurbish 8 antiquated Science Classrooms in the Original (1971) section of WHS
- Renovate the Wilton High School Little Theater in the original section of the building
- Renovate/Update Air Handling (HVAC) system in the original section of WHS

WHY:

- To provide science classrooms that will enable teachers to deliver a 21st Century educational program
- To update the outdated/inoperable mechanical, electrical, lighting, rigging and seating in the Little Theater – a heavily used instructional, performance and meeting venue
- To replace a 37 year old HVAC system and bring the original sections of WHS into compliance with current indoor air quality, ventilation and classroom acoustical noise standards.

WHO:

The Wilton High School Building Committee, a group consisting of community volunteers with expertise in engineering, construction and project management, Board of Education members, staff and paid architectural, engineering and construction consultants.

WHEN:

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING – 9/16, 2008 @ 7:30 PM
VOTING CONTINUES SATURDAY 9/20 FROM 9:00 AM - 6:00 PM

WHERE: DAVID F. CLUNE CENTER, WILTON HIGH SCHOOL

THESE RENOVATIONS WILL AFFECT GENERATIONS OF WILTON STUDENTS

Karen Birck:

These projects were in the specs for 1998 but were cut due to the budget.

Bonding is for \$20,300,000.

Little Theatre built in 1971- return to original condition and replace worn components; house and stage lighting, sound system, stage curtains and rigging, carpeting and seating. Make ADA compliant- handicap seating. Stage enhancements. It is used primarily for classroom teaching.

The Board of Selectman choose to put all three projects together and not present them to the voters separately.

Harrison Telyan, a High School Student, spoke of the heavy use by students not just for classes but for free periods as well.

Hermon Telyan predicts the Little Theatre will be the most expensive part of the bonding.

Process: Enhanced schematics are done along with a professionally estimated price tag and they feel good about the price they set.

The steering committee included members from the community, Board of Ed, end users and experts. It was a very knowledgeable group of people.

Science Labs built in 1971-

- Improve and update learning environment
- Integrate technology
- Configure as classroom lab
- Built in flexibility

Bruce Hampson:

Update Air Handling (HVAC) System

The A/C does not include the field house.

Objectives: Raise the indoor air quality to current codes (from 5 to 20 CFM)

Acoustics in classrooms

To be energy efficient

Lower maintenance costs

Lead Silver standard (scope of project didn't qualify but honored criteria)

Process: Started with 6 systems as candidates narrowed to 3. Engineer did computer model with calendar, occupancy, equipment and weather tape and ran the building for 12 month occupancy then compared the 3 systems. The system selected was the most expensive but met all criteria.

Design: Remove unit ventilators in each room and take mechanics out of the classrooms and put on the roof. Add ductwork. Will be a quieter system. Each classroom will have a thermostat.

They have done design development and are confident on price. Product specifications are being written, then they will bring the design to CT Light and Power will review and if there is a product of higher efficiency they will pay for the difference for most. It is a variable air volume system.

The system is automated to optimize. It has non-volatile components. The energy committee was involved.

He was queried about solar cells and they don't come close to being economically viable, the H.S. has some small cells for educational purposes.

Could not consider gas turbine generator because no gas line up route 7.

He was queried about the windows. The windows are single pane. There would be a savings of \$35,000 per year but would cost \$2.4 million to replace.

\$12,683,000 hard cost and 20% soft cost.

There was a discussion of the electric rate structure and demand charges.

The actuarial life expectancy of the new unit is 25 years.

Turner Construction recommended doing all at once and not over 3 summers. Start will be Feb/Mar and finished in 10 months. Will work 8 hours after school is out.

A motion to endorse the project as presented passed unanimously.

There was a brief discussion of receiving the **bucket from the frivolity bowl**. Brian Shea took a picture of Al Alper presenting the bucket to John Kalamarides. John presented the bucket to David Borglum for safe keeping.

Treasurers Report:

Will email Monday after the BBQ. There have been checks coming in from the mailing. So far, \$1518 from the Chair's fundraising letter.

Volunteer of the Month: Barbara Massey-Bear for letters to Dems

Selectman's report: Not able to be here, excused, Ted emailed his report

Obama Update: see Lex Paulson
Needs canvassers for PA

Himes Update: Michael Sachse, Communications Director

They need help. For press events they are looking for people to speak first hand on issues, need help to ID people to speak on issues in front of reporters. I.e.: Veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan, Fixed Income, Increased healthcare costs, small business owner, home heating, used green technology, voted for Shays but changing for Himes. Focus on Middleclass and pocketbook issues.

Unity meeting on Saturday

Debates with Shays

Show visible support for Himes
 NEED Letters to Editor
 Hiring canvasser for 6 days per week, door to door to ask questions.
 There will be phone banking
 Commercials are going well—content based (Shays says economy is doing just fine)

BBQ Plans: Barbara Massey- Bear
 She reviewed the tentative dignitary list Those planning to attend are:
 Dick Blumenthal, Dan Malloy, George Jepson, & Denise Nappier

How have \$2400- just enough to cover costs.
 Currently have 46 attending.
 There were two donations of \$1000 and they were given comp tickets to the BBQ

Need to have details on the website- about BBQ and who is attending.

There was a discussion over the issue of \$50 tickets, emphasis that this is a fundraiser. John Kalamarides okayed Seniors attending for \$35.

John Hartwell Report: Toni Lee
 John is walking, had an article, letter writing campaign.
 Event at Wilton Library 8 am Sept 18th. Get details from Toni Lee

Peggy Reeves Report:
 The Campaign Kickoff at Peggy's was fun. Her R Husband gave a touching speech. Her calendar is full and she is walking every night. There is a fundraiser at Dan Malloy's house by the Democratic Leadership Committee.
 They need letters to the editor and testimonials for a mailing. Seven mailers are planned. CT House Dems put in more money for her to win.

Sharon suggested a meet the candidates night end of Sept/early Oct.

A Motion passed to allow funds for renting of the library for a candidates night.

There is a 4th CD Chair's dinner on the 17th.

Should we do Fat Cat in Oct? Decided no, too much going on.

Wilton High School Young Democrats Club: Harrison Telyan, 17, Junior at WHS
 They made a proposal to the new Dean for a Young Democrats club.
 Goal: to get speakers, Rearrange bias views
 They are looking for advice. May use face book. Harrison offered a band for the BBQ

Adjourned: 9:20

Respectively Submitted by: Deborah McFadden, acting secretary

