

Greenfield School Committee
Re-envisioning our School Facilities Sub-Committee
Meeting Minutes
June 5, 2024

1. Call to Order
Present: Stacey Sexton (SS - Chair), Ann Childs (AC)
Absent: Mayor Ginny Desorgher (GD)
Also Present: Dr. Christine DeBarge

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment
Melissa Webb, parent of 3 GPS students (each in different buildings), spoke to redistricting and, again, advocated for the grade K-5 platform.
3. Approval of Minutes – April 9, 2024
On a motion by AC, 2nd by SS, the sub-committee voted to approve the minutes as presented. The vote was unanimous.
4. Update on Transportation Related to Redrawing Boundaries
There was no update to provide at this time.
5. Update on Green River School
Dr. DeBarge noted she sent a requested written summary to MSBA to finally close-out and take Green River School out of service. We have started cleaning out the building, will salvage what can be utilized within the district, and will then have the School Committee vote to declare the other items surplus at a regularly scheduled meeting. We will look to handoff the building to the City at some point in September, or close thereto, as to allow us time for cleaning, removal of our technology (cameras, phones, etc.), and to work with the City on next steps. It will then be up to the City to do what they see fit for the building.

AC shared there were two heavily discussed views of the Building and Construction Committee relative to options for the building:

- Enter into a partnership to convert the building into sustainable housing
- Utilize the building for the City's desperate need for offices

Dr. DeBarge noted one of the factors in the MSBA documentation, signed by Mayor Martin approximately 10 years ago, is a condition as to how the facility is utilized. If the condition is not met, it could have an impact on the status of repayment of the funds. This may also factor in the consideration for the future use of the building.

On a motion by AC, 2nd by SS, the sub-committee recommended the School Committee take a vote on decommissioning the Green River School. The vote was unanimous.

6. Review the Sub-Committee's Purpose/Scope of Responsibility

SS noted there seems to be conversations relative to this topic:

- The sub-committee is done, it's work is done, it's time for it to be decommissioned
- The sub-committee's scope is shifting, as opposed to being completely decommissioned

AC stated the sub-committee has continuously worked to set a standard of rules that apply equally to all. It is the primary way, in terms of racial justice, that this committee has functioned.

SS also noted they would like to be mindful of the boundary line that occurs between setting and implementing policy. They are very much related; one is our job, the other is not.

SS stated it is unclear if this sub-committee is destined to continue in a formal capacity after next week's full committee meeting, but they thought it best to revisit what has been done and what has been accomplished.

7. Call for future agenda items

SS noted it does not make sense to call for future agenda items as this time, being it is not certain whether or not they will continue this sub-committee.

8. Adjourn

On a motion by AC, 2nd by SS, the meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

Approved: 5/12/25