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Abington Frolio Middle School Project Working Session #30

Notes for Session: 7:30 AM, February 6, 2015

Attendees: Peter Schafer, Felicia Moschella, Jason Linn, Jessica Sullivan, Kathy Bailey, Shawn Reilly, Jannette Leary, Mike Lyons, David Drew, Richard Testa, Scott Dunlap, Troy Randall, Craig Olsen, Roger Boddie, and Mary Mahoney

Guests: Cari Orsi, Pare Corporation, project civil engineers, and Kris Bradner, Birchwood Design Group, project landscape architect

Items:

1. K. Bradner presented conceptual plans for hardscape and landscape design at the building's Main Entrance, Courtyard at High School Student Dining, and Gymnasium/Auditorium Entrance. Designs feature an organic approach to stormwater management.
 - a) Main Entrance – two options were presented
 - i. Option 1 – A sweeping design for entrance patio/sidewalk and landscape areas.
 - ii. Option 2 – A geometric design for entrance patio/sidewalk and landscape areas. Landscape features different plantings to provide more shade.
 - b) Courtyard at High School Student Dining – two options were presented each providing outdoor tables for student dining with option to include umbrellas at tables and rain garden to provide space framing and stormwater management.
 - i. Option 1 – includes an outdoor student dining area outside the High School Student Dining space and a separate gathering/instructional place using both hardscape and landscape components to shape and create the spaces.
 - ii. Option 2 – includes a single combined dining and gathering/instructional space with a more separate and prominent Auditorium/Gymnasium entry and forecourt.

Group discussion ensued regarding the types of trees and other plantings/seedings proposed and the option for low to no maintenance plantings or features, the design and performance characteristic of rain gardens, site furnishings including dining tables, seating, and bike racks, and relocation of existing memorials. There was a general consensus that sweeping layout was preferred for ease of snow removal, low/no maintenance plantings, and supervision lines, that grass use should be minimized, and umbrellas should not be provided at student dining tables.

2. K. Bradner reviews synthetic field layout adjustments, including shifting the High School Student Parking Lot south towards Gliniewicz Way to provide additional length to the east synthetic field, extending the east synthetic field to provide a full size football field with goal posts, adjustments to maximize field run offs, and taking (10) parking spaces along the west synthetic field to creating area for portable bleacher viewing area.
 - a) Site transition from the east synthetic field to the High School Student Parking Lot was reviewed noting that there is an 18 inch grade transition from the field limit to the sidewalk at the parking lot. Design proposes a grass slope for transition.
3. C. Orsi reviewed options for increasing parking in close proximity to the Auditorium/Gym using areas at and adjacent to the proposed tennis courts. Five options presented.
 - a) Five courts with parking lot located at the once sixth court on the east (building) side of courts

- b) Five courts with parking lot located at the once sixth court on the west side of courts with connection to the Middle School west parking lot
- c) Three courts with parking lot located at the once fourth, fifth, & sixth courts.
- d) No courts with area used for parking
- e) Five courts with two courts located at one side of an expanded Middle School west parking lot and three courts located on the opposite side of the parking lot.

Group discussion ensued regarding the various layout options offered, high school physical education program, high school athletic and competition needs, overall site constraints and parking area restrictions, access options at the building's main entrance to reduce weather effect to access the Auditorium and Gym, travel distances from parking areas to the Auditorium and Gym, Town Meeting scope presentations, and budgetary, site, and grading considerations effecting site layout with a general consensus to include six tennis courts in the project.

- 4. C. Orsi review adjustments to the High School vehicle access from Gliniewicz Way to provide a separate one way only entry for buses to the main entry bus loop.
- 5. C. Orsi review the site designs to maintain the access path from the west parking lots to Reilly Field.
- 6. C. Orsi reported on project phasing plans and adjustments made to temporary parking areas to meet the goal of 200 spaces for the High School during all phases of construction during the school year, including:
 - a) Current site provides 313 spaces
 - b) Phase 1 will add 21 temporary parking spaces while taking the existing east lot out of service – creating a total of 200 spaces
 - c) Phase 1, Summer 2016 space count will drop to 115 spaces
 - d) Phase 2 parking space count will increase to 282
 - e) Phase 3 will provide final design counts.
- 7. Schedule for future meetings:
 - a) Working Sessions – February 13, 2015, 7:30am, at North School
 - b) Building Committee Meetings –
 - i. February 10, 2015, 6pm, Community Room, Police Station
 - ii. March 10, 2015, 6pm, Community Room, Police Station

To the best of my knowledge, these notes are a fair representation of the issues and items discussed at the meeting. Additional items or corrections should be brought to the attention of the writer.

Submitted by: M. Mahoney 2/6/15