



## PLANNING & BUILDING COMMITTEE

Merrimack School District

<http://www.merrimack.k12.nh.us/PBC/>

### Minutes

December 4, 2018

Present: F. Rothhaus, R. Hendricks, G. Perry, S. Sheridan, L. Rothhaus, S. Heinrich and School Board Liaison A. Schneider

Also Present: Members of the Soccer Booster Club

R. Hendricks called the meeting to order at 7 PM. He told those present that the Committee does “R & D” (Research and Development) for the District. He stated that soccer parents had recently gone to the School Board requesting that a turf field for the high school be proposed sooner rather than later. He explained that the Committee had been researching turf field options for several years.

A. Schneider said that the School Board has both a turf field and a new administrative building on the Capital Improvement Plan as upcoming projects. He thought, if the parents present worked with the Planning and Building Committee, possibly a petitioned warrant article for the field could be put on the ballot in the spring. He said the School Board is looking for ways to fund field without a bond. He noted that currently the District spends \$69,000 to fund transportation to and rent for the use of a field in Bedford for Merrimack “home” soccer games.

Discussion included the following:

- There is a cost difference of \$25,000 between grass field maintenance and turf field maintenance.
- A turf field can be used for multiple games on a given day.
- Is there some other land available in Merrimack on which to locate a turf field?
- Would there be heat under the field?
- MYA does not pay rent for use of School District fields, unless there is overtime for a janitor.
- Could the project also include an outside facility/refreshment stand with bathrooms and possibly opposing team locker room?
- What are the guidelines and procedures for naming possibilities, donations and sponsorships?
- A petitioned warrant article only needs signatures of 25 registered voters.
- Research area grass and turf fields to compare usage, “approval ratings” as well as costs to install and maintain.
- Get cost estimates and potential warrant article wording from Business Administrator Shevenell.
- Contact the School Board chair to get on a School Board agenda.

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- Need to attend School Board and Budget Committee meetings as well as Deliberative Session to present the petitioned warrant article.
- Project has to be “sold” to the public.
- Can donations be “secured” before April?

.R. Hendricks made a MOTION to support the efforts of the residents to develop a petitioned warrant article for a turf field to be on the April 2019 ballot. Second: G. Perry. MOTION PASSED unanimously.

L. Rothhaus made a MOTION to adjourn. Second: F, Rothhaus. MOTION PASSED.

R. Hendricks adjourned the meeting at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Heinrich