The Barnstable School Committee met on Monday, January 31, 2018, in the Barnstable Intermediate School Library for a School Committee Workshop. Present were Chair Chris Joyce and Committee members Patrick Murphy and Mike Judge. Also present were Meg Mayo-Brown, Kristen Harmon, Gareth Markwell, Jen Kruczek, David Kanyock, Scott Thomas, Patrick Clark, Jen Swaylick, Scott Swaylick, and Lee Docherty.

Mr. Joyce called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Joyce recited the District’s Vision Statement of the Barnstable School System.

**Master Field Plan**

- Mr. Joyce stated the purpose of tonight’s meeting was to discuss the proposed field changes at BHS and BIS.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown stated last year she looked at the plan that was done to upgrade fields at BHS. The project was revisited and she put together an ad hoc committee who have met over the past few months and made recommendations to move the plan forward.
- The Master Field Plan Ad Hoc Committee introduced themselves: along with Ms. Mayo-Brown they are Dave Kanyock, Gareth Markwell, Jen Swaylick, Scott Swaylick, Lee Docherty and Scott Thomas.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown asked Mr. Kanyock to give an overview as to where the plans are to date.
- Mr. Kanyock stated this will be a three phase project. Phase 1 will include an artificial turf baseball field and rectangular field along with spectator stands, a baseball backstop, pressbox and lift, dugouts with player benches and storage, bullpens/batting cage, removable bases/pitching mound/homeplate, scoreboard, lighting, flagpole, restrooms and concession building, upgraded parking, sidewalks, landscaping, benches, picnic tables and infrastructure.
- Mr. Kanyock showed an overhead view of the current fields and the proposed new layout. He stated DPW is interested in having reserve drainage under the fields, which would be in Phases 2 and 3.
- Mr. Joyce asked if the concession stands are in Phase 2. Mr. Kanyock stated it would be in Phase 1 and would include restrooms.
- Mr. Kanyock stated Phase 1 is up for Capital Improvement Project appropriations this year. Phase 1 would take 18 months to complete and Phase 2 and 3 would each take two years to complete.
- Mr. Joyce stated when the Committee first saw the plan four or five years ago, it was just a baseball field. He could not get behind the idea of this funding for just a baseball field. Now that it’s a multipurpose field, this proposal fits the needs of our students.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown asked Mr. Kanyock to talk about the new bleachers and backstop. Mr. Kanyock stated last year, we were awarded funds to replace the bleachers and the backstop. The contract has been awarded and the backstop will be in for the start of this baseball season. At the same time the new bleachers at the football stadium will be installed.
- Mr. Judge asked what the utility fields will be used for. Mr. Thomas stated any rectangle sport including soccer, field hockey, and lacrosse.
- Ms. Mayo-Brown stated the Town Manager suggested softball could use the town’s new Lombard Field with lights.
- Mr. Thomas stated having multiple fields will help the fields last longer since the sports can be spread out among multiple fields.
- Mr. Judge asked why the synthetic field was needed. Mr. Joyce stated the field needs to be a multi-use field. He along with Mr. Kanyock and Mr. Thomas took a field trip to look at the synthetic fields at three other districts. A big reason is baseball games are canceled in the spring due to weather and wetness on the natural fields. This will lead to less games being canceled and Barnstable will have a secondary turf field. The sports teams cannot be supported with just the one field.
- Mr. Docherty stated the natural fields are unsafe due to overuse.
- Mr. Kanyock stated he is planning on taking one natural grass field out of use each year to water and let it grow.
- Mr. Murphy thinks the proposed plan is a fantastic plan. His only concern is how old is the current football field and how much longer until that turf needs to be replaced. Mr. Kanyock stated the current turf football field is eight years old and has another two to three years.
Mr. Murphy asked where the teams are going to play while this is being built. He stated expectations must be set for the students and community.

Mr. Thomas stated where the teams will play has been discussed. One idea for baseball is the Cape Cod Academy. They have not been fielding teams due to low enrollment.

Ms. Mayo-Brown asked Scott and Jen Swaylick to talk about fundraising and the community.

Mr. Swaylick stated he has talked to people in the community for support. People are offering to donate lumber and other items, but he knows this is not how it works. They are looking for ways to raise money including selling bricks on walkways, having an unveiling gala event or fundraiser at a local restaurant, and naming rights to foul poles, scoreboards, flag poles, etc. He needs to know what the rules of engagement are.

Ms. Mayo-Brown stated a next step for the School Committee would be to designate areas open for naming: for example the brick pathways.

Ms. Swaylick stated alumni and elementary school parents are excited for the project.

Ms. Mayo-Brown stated that there has been an idea to get the Barnstable students to participate in naming the project. Mr. Thomas stated he is waiting for this plan to be approved and he can start the competition.

Mr. Murphy stated the rules of engagement are a tricky question since there are procurement laws attached to it. What exactly is the money donated going to be used for. Ms. Swaylick stated a couple if areas are maintenance and equipment.

Ms. Mayo-Brown stated research has been done and they will follow the legal parameters as to what can be named. The School Committee can decide what can be named.

Mr. Joyce stated he spoke to former School Committee member and current President of Mass Maritime, Fran McDonald, and he said specific parameters and a moral clause can be put into place.

Mr. Joyce opened the meeting up to public comment.

  - Patti Machado, Leisure Services Director, is in support of this plan. The fields have not changes too much since she went to BHS and it is coming up on 40 years. It’s not just the high school, but the intermediate school as well. It enhances the recreation programs to have these fields. Barnstable wants to give the Barnstable schools first dibs on the town’s fields.
  - Edith LaBran, community member, stated having the press box and bathrooms are great ideas.
  - Barbara Gleason, BHS Physical Education Teacher, stated she loves the walking track and having bathrooms out there. She asked if physical education teachers would have access to use bathrooms. Mr. Clark stated he is not sure why the current building’s bathrooms are not used. Ms. Gleason asked if the community will have access during the school day. Ms. Mayo-Brown stated they have had conversations about this and will continue to do so. Mr. Murphy stated there is a policy that says fields are classrooms during the day. It’s another issue for the public to abide by. Mr. Kanyock stated they are considering fencing everything in. Ms. Gleason asked about upgrading the locker rooms, as they are 25 years old. Mr. Kanyock stated gym and field house improvements are in the 5 year plan.

Mr. Markwell stated the Town asked for all the departments’ capital improvement projects (CIP) for 1-5 years. The CIP scoring group got together and scored over 80 projects. Each department presented their top 5-10 projects. The scores have gone to the Town Manager and he will use that to develop a plan for this year and 5 years out. The Town Manager will recommend a capital plan on February 26. The Town Council will have a 1st reading March 8 and it will be approved later in the spring. After approved, there will be a 30 day cooling period and then bids can go out.

Mr. Judge asked Mr. Kanyock what his plan would be if the project is approved. Mr. Kanyock stated he would start the engineering immediately after approval.

Mr. Joyce thanked everyone for the work they have put into developing this plan and for their work here tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jen Krucek
Executive Assistant