



05-24-2

Dr. Jack Barshinger, Superintendent

MINUTES

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PORTABLE CLASSROOMS
APRIL 11, 2005 - 7:00 P.M.
DISTRICT 41 ADMINISTRATION CENTER
MARY J. LUGINBILL BOARD ROOM**

ABRAHAM LINCOLN PORTABLE CLASSROOM UNITS

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** President Vivoda called the public hearing to order at 7:02 p.m. Present: Marcheschi, DiFabio, Vivoda, Hoffman, McElvain. Others present: Dr. Jack Barshinger, Superintendent; Maureen Stecker, recording secretary; newly elected board members John Kenwood, Terra Howard and Kevin Cosgrove.

2. **DISTRICT 41 PROPOSAL:** Dr. Barshinger explained that the purpose of tonight’s hearing is to obtain public input on a proposal for the alternative location for the placement of the four-classroom portable unit for Abraham Lincoln School. The District held the first of two public hearings on February 28, 2005 to propose the placement of the portable classroom unit behind the school where there is already a portable classroom installed. At that time, the Village of Glen Ellyn officials advised that the proposed placement is in a flood plain and would require two zoning variations and a special use permit. **(Attachment 4)** It is estimated that this process would take three months and has additional cost implications. Because this is a costly process that is not likely to be completed for the opening of the 2005-2006 school year, the District is proposing an alternative option that would place the portable classroom unit on the west side of the school site, facing Newton Avenue. **(Attachment 1).**

Dr. Barshinger reported that no action will be taken tonight, but anticipates Board action at the April 18, 2005 meeting.

3. **RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VILLAGE OF GLEN ELLYN:**
 - A. Phyllis Hanna, Assistant Business Manager read a letter dated March 31, 2005 from Michelle Stegall, Village Planner into the public record. **(Attachment 2).**
 - B. Village Planners have indicated that they do not like the Newton location for the Lincoln portable, but won’t object. They would prefer that the District go through the variance process. This process would take approximately three months and would require:
 - Hiring an engineer to prepare a detailed grading plan and storm water report to be reviewed by Bill McGurr, the Village’s consulting engineer
 - Special use permit and two variations

- Notice of public hearing by the plan commission that must be published one month in advance.
 - Approximately \$3,000 in additional costs for variations, special use permit and escrow to cover McGurr's time
- C. Recommendations from Phil Norton, Village of Glen Ellyn Chief of Police
(Attachment 3)

4. **PUBLIC INPUT**

Residents:

1. **John Doty**, 206 Newton Avenue: Mr. Doty urged the District to pursue the variance process and asked why we did not begin the process in February when the Village first made their recommendation.
2. **Ed Moore**, 391 Turner Avenue: Mr. Moore supported the Newton location and felt that pursuing the alternative option of zoning variations would place neighboring properties at significant risk of flooding.
3. **Carol Lincoln**, 232 Newton Avenue: Mrs. Lincoln expressed safety concerns about the traffic congestion on Newton.
4. **Donald Sutherland**, 220 Newton Avenue: Mr. Sutherland wanted to know if the tree removal on the West side of Lincoln was in preparation for the placement of the portable classroom and was interested in knowing why the District hasn't pursued the zoning variances.
5. **Rick Bush**, Greenfield Avenue: Mr. Bush expressed safety concerns about the increased traffic congestion on Newton that would be created by placing the portable classroom on the West side of Lincoln and said that the issue is "what is right for kids."

Board members:

1. **John Vivoda**: Mr. Vivoda asked for assurance that the engineering from the detention base is correct and requested a schedule that would more accurately outline time frame and costs for the zoning variances.
2. **Willie DiFabio**: Mr. DiFabio asked Dr. Barshinger for a historical perspective of the Lincoln portable classroom placement and would like the discussion regarding the pros and cons of the proposed placement documented.

Dr. Barshinger provided the Board with copies of input he has received regarding the placement of the portable classrooms on the West side of Lincoln. He said that he would consider all of the input he has received, including the comments from tonight's hearing when making his recommendation to the Board at their April 18, 2005 meeting. In the interim, he will continue to work with Village representatives and Lincoln principal, Laurie Campbell on a solution.

6. **ADJOURNMENT**: The public hearing was closed at 7:40 p.m.

Recorded: April 11, 2005

Deborah M. Hoffman, Secretary

Approved: April 18, 2005

John J. Vivoda, *President*