

REGULAR SESSION MINUTES

April 13, 2015

A meeting of the Swampscott School Committee was held in room B208 at Swampscott High School commencing at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Ted Delano, Chairman, Ms. Carin Marshall, Vice Chairman, Ms. Amy OConnor, Ms. Suzanne Wright and Ms. Gargi Cooper. Also Present: Ms. Lois Longin, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, Mr. Evan Katz, School Business Manager and Ian Crimmins, Student Representative. Ms. Pamela Angelakis, Superintendent of Schools, and Student Representative, Megan Russo, were absent.

Ms. Marshall explained two students were invited to come up and lead the pledge of allegiance and read the Mission Statement of the District. She gave the Committee some background on each student and introduced Hadley School students Harriet Reilly and Franklin Dallimore Banks.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

Ian Crimmins commented on the recent Junior Show and said it was a great show. He said the Senior Show would be held on April 29th.

Ms. Cooper said she recently attended the Hadley PTA meeting and that Peter Spellios and Glenn Kessler came to speak. She said it was great to have potential Selectmen and Selectmen attend and hoped it could be a more regular thing, not just at election time.

Ms. Marshall said that the MASC day on the hill was coming and inquired if anyone was interested in going. Ms. Wright stated she had already registered. Ms. Marshall thought they could speak and coordinate attendance.

Ms. Wright commented on her recent attendance at a MASC workshop on measuring success. She gave an overview of what was presented and thought the District could revisit some of those categories in measuring its success.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ms. Marshall stated due to her absence she would abstain from voting on the Consent Agenda.

MOTION:

It was moved by Ms. OConnor and seconded by Ms. Wright to accept the Consent Agenda. The motion passed unanimously 4-0. Ms. Marshall abstained.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

SHS Student Recognition -- Best of School Winner for 6th Congressional High School Art Show – Andrew Gladstone

Ms. Longin recognized Andrew Gladstone for his recent accomplishment of winning Best in School for his painting "Diva" which hung in the Monserrat Galleries for two weeks. The Committee also congratulated Andrew for his accomplishment.

Mr. Delano stated they would postpone the All Blue presentation, as those presenters hadn't arrived yet.

Community Service Update – all schools

Ms. Longin stated that Ms. OConnor had recently asked for an overview of all of the community service going on with the District. Ms. Longin referred to the handout in each member's packet which provided a month by month listing. Ms. Longin added that as a former principal, the community service projects were one of her favorite things. Ms. OConnor thanked Ms. Longin for getting the list together so quickly.

K-12 Task Force

Ms. Longin questioned whether the item should be tabled with the absence of Ms. Angelakis. Ms. Marshall agreed that the bulk of the information should come from Ms. Angelakis since she’s heading it up. Ms. Marshall added that the group did meet once and she felt it was very positive and that everyone seems to be on the same page. Ms. Longin added it was nice to see that it started as an elementary task force but was renamed as K-12 and she felt it was great to look at all the schools and see how they interact with one another. Mr. Delano requested a motion to table the item to the next agenda.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Ms. Cooper to table letter D under the Superintendent’s Report to the next scheduled meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Delano requested a motion to table the presentation from the All Blue Foundation until they arrive.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Ms. OConnor to table letter B under the Superintendent’s Report until the presenters arrive. The motion passed unanimously.

SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

Orientation Report

Mr. Katz said he is beginning his fourth week in the District and gave the Committee an overview of all of the things that have gone on since he began. He added that it’s exciting to be part of all that has been going on and that he looks forward to moving ahead. Ms. OConnor commented on the recent Finance Committee meeting and Ms. Cooper added that she thought Ms. Angelakis did a great job of outlining the needs of the District.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Student Travel Policy – JJH

Ms. Longin gave some background on the current field trips and stated it had come to their attention recently that students were driving other students. Ms. Longin expressed concern about District liability and felt the Committee should look at the policy. Ms. Wright looked into the issue and located the current policy as well as researched some other District’s policies. She added that Mike Gilbert recommended adding a waiver to the athletic package to cover students going with other students to fields for practice and games where those aren’t located within the High School complex. She added that she has signed permission slips also for those reasons for her children and that Mr. Gilbert suggested adding a disclaimer to those that the school is not liable in those cases. Ms. Wright suggested a new policy as a first read at a future meeting and that Ms. Longin could standardize it with the high school. Mr. Delano stated it could be added as first read on the next agenda.

Updated Policy Manual – First Read

Ms. Marshall explained the process the Subcommittee went through with MASC to update the policy manual. She stated that Ms. Wright had created a spreadsheet which outlined any changes which were made.

The presenters from the All Blue Foundation arrived and Ms. Marshall stated she could suspend to hear their presentation.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Ms. OConnor to return back to item B under the Superintendent’s Report. The motion passed unanimously.

All Blue Foundation Presentation

Mr. Delano invited Chris Urbano forward to speak. Mr. Urbano handed out a packet to the Committee which contained the phases of proposed renovation. He explained that the Foundation would be asking the town to fund phase one of the project at a cost of \$1.65 million. He further explained that phases two and three would be funded through private donations. He gave the Committee some background into the prior proposal as well as new research on materials which comprised the newest proposal. He spoke about the benefits of the turf field versus

natural grass. He further explained the proposed ways that he understood the town could fund the first phase. He added that he hoped that the Committee would speak in favor of the project or issue a statement in favor before Town Meeting. Mr. Delano explained that the agenda did not request a vote and encouraged any member to reach out to the Foundation with any questions. Ms. OConnor inquired into the cost of replacing the surface after ten years. Mr. Urbano stated he had researched the issue and that it was approximately \$420,000 to replace it every ten years. Ms. OConnor also expressed concern for equity amongst the teams that would be using the fields. Mr. Urbano stated the field would be wider than the current field and lined for various sports. Mr. Faulkner added that the Rec. Department would still be in charge of assigning the fields and would see to it that each team was equally represented. There was discussion regarding new Committees and Boards which would be formed after the vote at Town Meeting and how they would proceed. Ms. Wright expressed concern about maintenance and the cost of a maintenance plan. Mr. Urbano stated that had been researched as well. Mr. Faulkner wondered if it was appropriate to request another date for a vote. Mr. Delano stated he would poll the Committee off-line and that they would be in touch.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Ms. Cooper to return to item B under Subcommittee Reports. The motion passed unanimously.

Updated Policy Manual – first read

Ms. Marshall reviewed the procedure that was used to update the Policy Manual. She added that Ms. Wright had produced a spreadsheet which outlined all of the changes and additions or deletions. Ms. Wright reviewed the spreadsheet and stated that there were still some policies that needed to be discussed but the entire manual could be approved and then those could be discussed a few at a time. She reviewed how things were updated and removed and gave an example of one of the changes. She added if anyone had questions they could forward them to her. Ms. Cooper questioned the Chemical Health Policy and Ms. Wright stated that could be added to “under review.” There was discussion on whether they needed to review each as a group or whether the Committee felt it could do it individually off-line. Mr. Delano stated it would be placed on the April 27th agenda for approval.

NEW BUSINESS

School Building Use

Ms. Marshall stated that Mr. Gilbert suggested during policy review that this should be removed and made a part of office procedure. Ms. Marshall suggested tabling the issue until the next meeting for more input from Ms. Angelakis.

MOTION: It was moved by Ms. Marshall and seconded by Ms. OConnor to table letter A under the New Business to the next scheduled meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cooper requested to add to Subcommittee Reports and stated she would be meeting with the Joint Task Force along with Ms. Wright tomorrow. She stated they would be finalizing the Memo of Agreement and would forward to the Committee for its review to sign off at the next meeting. Ms. Cooper expressed some concern about rushing a vote through and Ms. OConnor agreed. Mr. Delano added he wasn't sure it needed to be voted. Ms. Cooper stated it was her recommendation that this piece not be rushed. She also questioned whether Ms. Angelakis would be referencing the consolidation in her State of the Schools at Town Meeting. Mr. Wright stated she would be meeting with Ms. Angelakis again to finalize the State of the Schools and would bring that up. Ms. Cooper thought it was an important thing to highlight.


Ms. Marshall added that there was no update on negotiations due to the cancelled Executive Session but that she hoped to have an update at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION:

At 8:51 p.m. it was moved by Mr. Marshall and seconded by Ms. OConnor to adjourn.
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Pamela R.H. Angelakis, M.A., M.Ed.
Superintendent of Schools

4/28/15

Date:

/pan