

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
106 Hancock Road
Peterborough, New Hampshire
CONTOOCCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, October 24, 2019
7:00 p.m.
SAU #1

Agenda

- 1. Accept Minutes of September 26, 2019**
- 2. Transition**
- 3. SAC's Role**
- 4. Regional Broadband**
- 5. School Funding**
- 6. Adequacy Dollars**
- 7. Enrollment Update**
- 8. Other**

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Minutes

Present: John Jordan (Hancock), Karen Hatcher (Peterborough), George Willard (Temple), John Robertson (Antrim), Don Gabel (Dublin), Dr. Kimberly Saunders, Tim Theberge, Myron Steere

John Jordan called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. Accept Minutes of August 22, 2019

Dale Gabel moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 2019. Karen Hatcher second. Unanimous.

2. Transition

John Jordan reported that he is not running again for Hancock Select board. He felt this was a good time to talk about transition. The SAC and School Board have developed a lot of good dialogue sharing what is going on. John said that he goes to every School Board meeting and Budget & Property Committee meeting aside from SAC meetings. His successor can decide what they want the Chair of SAC to do.

Myron Steere reported that he is off of the School Board effective September 30th. Katherine Heck and Alan Edelkind will be coming on the School Board until March.

Dale Gabel also reported that his term is up as Selectman and he is not running again.

John Robertson said that his term is also up, he has not yet decided if he will run again.

Karen Hatcher said that should she consider chairing SAC, she would suggest that attending meetings be shared.

3. SAC's Role

John Jordan spoke about the positive relationship between the board and SAC and the changes that have taken place in recent years.

4. Regional Broadband

John Jordan reported that the people that attended the Regional Broadband meeting were very involved. We really can't continue to think about broadband for individual towns, it needs to be regional. It relates to the schools, they need the connectivity.

Tim Theberge reported that SB103 was passed in July. It allows for multi-municipal bonding. It went into effect 10 or 12 days ago. It authorizes multi-municipal bonding. The authorization is there to come together.

Karen Hatcher said that the Town of Peterborough does not have a franchise agreement with Comcast. She asked the town about mapping, it is available on the town website. The Southfield Condos are already wired. The Town of Peterborough map is available.

Tim Theberge said that the RFI (request for information) is the easiest way to get at this in individual towns. The maps, once brought together, will show where the gaps are. Multi-town efforts can then be identified.

Tim Theberge said that in the RFI, they will give you actual addresses that can be dumped into the GSI. Disclaimers will go into the map. We don't have maps for the towns that have not done an RFI.

Dale Gabel asked if Dublin continues down the process they have begun, does it hinder this work? Tim said that he did not think so. Where the towns touch might be funded by a town that can jump on the process. Putting money into capital reserve was suggested for Peterborough for areas close to Dublin. Tim Theberge said that every town should pursue the RFI, there is no cost to this.

5. School Funding

Kimberly Saunders reported that initial estimates are \$1.5M, one time money. The reissue of stabilization took place. The emergency ruling from DHS states that if we have Medicare/Medicaid eligible students we can charge services to Medicare/Medicaid.

Because we had unanticipated revenues last year, the amount that we will be giving back is likely over \$800,000, closer to \$900,000. More to come.

Karen Hatcher said that she joined the board in part, to address school funding fairness. The NH Charitable Foundation wants to continue the work to get this fixed and has provided some funding. Advocating and legal pressure will come out of school funding fairness. Pressure will continue to mount the fight.

What is the end goal? To fix the funding of schools. It is constitutionally required for the State to fund education. The end goal is to have the State meet its obligation and to do what it is required to do.

Kimberly Saunders said that there are two sets of decisions; those that make up ED306 and those that the State say we should do. The amount provided by the State for education funding should be more than \$3,500 per student.

Dale Gabel said that the figure of \$9K is what the state mandates. It is what makes an adequate education using the State's own numbers.

Kimberly added that transportation is not factored in. In Manchester, they spend \$300 per student transporting students. ConVal pays approximately \$900.

In areas where they cannot hire teachers, they have actually removed the right for a student to get an education because of funding.

Karen Hatcher said that it is important to continue to educate on this topic.

6. Other

Kimberly Saunders said that she is working on the Master Plan CIP Overlay. Some of the plans that were sent to her don't have spreadsheets. She needs additional information. Are some CIP's general without numbers? Kimberly Saunders agreed to dig in deeper and call individual towns.

The next SAC meeting is scheduled for October 24th at 7:00 p.m.

Dale Gabel moved to adjourn at 8:05 p.m. Karen Hatcher second. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok