

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

106 Hancock Road
Peterborough, New Hampshire

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Selectmen's Advisory Committee

Thursday, April 27, 2023

SAU Office Board Room
7:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Jeff Brown, George Willard, Carole Monroe, William Kennedy, Diane Callahan, Mike Borden, Dick Dunning, Alan Edelkind, Dan Harper

1. Call to Order

Jeff Brown called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Dick Dunning shared with Selectmen's Advisory Committee (SAC) members that he is School Board Chairman and the Peterborough Representative. The purpose of the SAC, as written in the Articles of Agreement was shared as follows:

The Committee shall have the responsibility to meet with the School Board for District financial planning, inputs and other matters of mutual interest.

Dick said that how we can work together has been positive. The relationship between the District and this group is critical.

Bill Kennedy asked if the meeting schedule for this committee is defined. Dick suggested that the committee meet for purpose and not meet just to meet.

2. Approve Minutes of March 23, 2023

Bill Kennedy moved to accept the minutes with the modification to reflect that PREP is an acronym for "Peterborough Renewable Energy Planning". Diane Callahan seconded. Unanimous.

3. Selectmen's Advisory Committee Chairman and Vice-Chair Vote

Jeff Brown asked who would like to be Chairman of Selectmen's Advisory Committee.

Carole Monroe nominated Jeff Brown as Chair. George Willard seconded.

Bill Kennedy asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none, Jeff was approved unanimously.

George Willard nominated Bill Kennedy as Vice-Chair. Carole Monroe seconded. Unanimous.

Jeff Brown asked what can be accomplished. Budgeting is the big piece. Getting finances in line to avoid surprises is a focus.

4. Consolidation/Reconfiguration Project Update

Alan Edelkind said that meetings might be important in conjunction with the work of the Strategic Organization Committee (SOC).

Carole Monroe said that this committee does not typically meet in the summer months. If something needs to take place, SAC will need to know.

Alan said that the Request for Information (RFI) was sent to eight companies. Three were selected to receive the Request for Proposal (RFP). A new committee composed of five members was formed. Two

companies responded to the RFP; the third declined due to internal issues. Two responses have been received.

An analysis process was developed to standardize the selection process of the company that will conduct this work. A formal notice of work done will be provided to the School Board. When the analysis of the two responses is complete next week, a recommendation will come forward. A communication process will be started.

The Board will be met with to approve the SOC recommendation on Friday, May 5th.

Project planning, scheduling, and deliverables will be shared.

The committee structure will be members of the Board, Administration, Community, SAC, and Teachers.

The contract would be finalized. Schedules and timelines of the project will be communicated.

The timeline is aggressive because whatever the recommendation might require a change to the Articles of Agreement. If so, work needs to be done by December in order to appear on the Warrant in March 2024.

Diane Callahan shared that the Town of Sharon is the only town that does not have an elementary school. She was unsure how they would contribute.

Dick Dunning said that Sharon sends their elementary school students to Peterborough Elementary School. A view can be provided on that.

What is best educationally needs determination. What is best financially for taxpayers needs determination. It needs to be objective. The key element is communication.

Dick said that this is a positive approach that can provide an answer. We do not see the population growth to support the model being delivered now into the future.

Mike Borden offered to sit on the committee as a SAC representative if needed.

Dick Dunning said that the vendor selected will be the conduit to forming the committees with objective eyes.

Diane Callahan shared that she hears people's concerns about what would happen to the schools in their towns.

The impact on property values, transportation to and from schools, building and school safety are concerns.

The environment to consider this was seen as more favorable now than before.

It is important to let community members know that this work is underway.

5. Workforce Development

Bill Kennedy shared the context that the Town of Peterborough has adopted an aggressive schedule to switch over to renewable resources. A workforce to implement the plan is needed to do this work.

Bill said that the role that the schools can play for the community with regard to a number of initiatives can involve the school. Makerspace has had a successful record of training students in the trades. The role that the school could play is through the technology center. Peterborough is working with a man from the Lake's Region Community College who has developed a curriculum that talk about the trades related in this area.

Offering this coursework and funding sources are being sought there.

Introducing students early on, in high school, to the concepts of energy conservation is an effort that is being asked.

Dick Dunning suggested that Jen Kiley come to present what is underway at the CTE at the high school for the future.

Mike Borden shared that the Hillsborough Deering High School might be considered as well.

MAXT Maker Space and training was discussed. They have done collaborative work in the past.

6. Topics for May meeting

Jen Kiley may be asked to present on what is happening at the CTE and what programs are currently offered now and what is planned for the future.

Carole Monroe shared that there is a need for fiber optics.

Diane Callahan said that the trades are hurting for people.

Carole Monroe said that she is aware of monies through Warrant Articles being placed in reserve accounts. She hears less about what is withdrawn. What the balances are would be valuable to know. Carole suggested when SAC meets that this be a topic on the agenda to share the purpose of hearings and for what purpose.

Mike Borden said that if this group is to bring topics in and also back to Select boards, this is a way to do that.

Jeff Brown found it interesting when the Robotics Team won and was eligible to go to Texas for \$15,000 that the money came out and was available in the budget.

7. Other

None.

8. Adjourn

Bill Kennedy motioned to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Carole Monroe seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Marschok