

RTM Education Committee Minutes
May 1, 2017
Town Hall Room 119

Meeting called to order at 8:03 pm.

15 voting members were present including: Dennis Maroney, Sandy Savage, Lucy Fiore, Derek Lublin, Deborah Ven, Susan Morrison, Barbra Thorne, Janet Grogan, Young-Sup Lee, Ann Reed, Jay Hardison, Jo Ann Sawitsky, Ed Wacheska, Emily McDermott and Shannon Silsby.

Also present Michael Harman and other members of the Board of Education, Dr. Brenner, Superintendent, and Jack Davis, Chairman of the RTM FNB Committee, as well as parents and members of the CDSP.

Discussion was initiated regarding voting to pass the Board of Education Budget for 2017-2018. There were discussions regarding the cost of the Curriculum Supervisors and Fitch Academy and what we could expect down the road from Hartford with regard to the imposition of Teacher's Pension costs on the individual towns in Connecticut.

Discussion also occurred around questions that RTM Education Member Deborah Wen had submitted regarding Technology Costs. A response was received from the BOE earlier today.

Discussion ensued regarding what options the RTM Education Committee has in terms of recommendations to the RTM on the BOE Budget.

Jay Hardison proposed an amendment to cut \$390,000 from the current Budget proposal.

Votes

10 Opposed

1 abstention (Jo Ann Sawitsky)

4 in favor

Amendment defeated

Young Sup Lee proposed an amendment to cut \$200,000 from the current budget.

Votes

8 Opposed

2 abstentions (Jo Ann Sawitsky Deborah Wen)

5 in favor

Amendment defeated

Vote on the approval of the BOE Budget for 2017-2018

Votes

11 in favor

1 abstention (Jo Ann Sawitsky)

3 Opposed

Budget approved

A motion to approve the Capital Projects budget was seconded and discussion ensued on the cafeteria at DHS. Cost was discussed as well as alternatives that have been proposed. There was also discussion regarding problems with the process and how communication could be improved in the future between the BOE and the RTM Education Committee.

Jay Hardison proposed a motion to remove \$1,400,000 from the education portion of the Capital Projects budget of \$3,254,653.

Votes

8 opposed

no abstentions

7 in favor

Motion failed

Vote was then taken to approve the Educational Portion of the Capital Projects of \$3,254,653.

Votes

9 in favor

no abstentions

6 opposed

Educational Portion of the Capital Projects of \$3,254,653 approved.

Jack Davis announced that there would be a joint meeting with RTM FNB, Parks and Rec, Public Works and RTM Education to discuss the town garage at the Board of Finance May Meeting.

Dennis Maroney reminded the committee members of the West Cog Meeting on May 11th at 7 pm and encouraged RTM Education Committee Members to attend.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:05

Respectfully submitted

Ann Reed