

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the RTM Education Committee
Thursday, March 15, 2018

Place:

Darien Town Hall, Room 119

Start Time: 7:30 p.m.

Members Present: Lucy Fiore, Janet Grogan, Jay Hardison, Young-Sup Lee, Ann Reed, Clara Sartori, Sandra Savage, Bill Smith, Barbara Thorne, Theresa Vogt, Edward Washecka

Members Absent: Patrick Keane, Carolina McGoey, Peter Riordan

Members of the Public: Catherine Piorkowski (CDSP)

Call to Order:

Ann Reed called the meeting to order with a quorum at 7:30 p.m.

Motion to Approve Minutes from the Meeting on 2/12/18:

- Sandra Savage made a motion to approve the minutes;
- Bill Smith seconded the motion;
- The minutes were approved unanimously with Barbara Thorne abstaining.

Agenda:

1. *Review and Discussion from the Board of Education on the Questions from the RTM Education Committee*

Ann Reed handed out a packet that included the answers to our questions to the Board of Education with regard to the budget. There was discussion that the answer pertaining to the job of the current Athletic Director (AD) needs to be further clarified with regard to whether or not the current AD oversees the Physical Education program for the entire district. Several members felt that the reasoning given for the hiring of an Assistant Athletic Director (AAD) vs. the current practice of the stipended faculty advisors does not make sense in that we are losing a set of eyes on the students.

Many felt that there is a need to follow up with the Holmes roof situation. The answer given that the roof is okay right now contradicts comments made by Holmes parents during the Board of Finance public comment. Parents stated that there was damage to books and furniture in one of the March rainstorms.

Members discussed the BOE answers with regard to measuring the success of Fitch as well as the how attendance requirements are defined.

Several members would like very specific information with regard to how the District is achieving cost savings with the Copy Center.

2. *Review the Status of Discussions of Options for Ox Ridge*

Ann Reed presented to the Committee the 3 potential options for Ox Ridge which were presented at the March 14th Board of Education Meeting. The 3 options include: a renovation of the existing structure; a renovation and expansion of the existing structure that allows for ELP to be centralized in the 1996 wing; a complete teardown of the 1966 building and a renovation of the 1996 wing (ELP would be centralized in the 1996 wing). Committee members discussed the pros and cons of the options.

3. *Review of the Comments at the Board of Finance Public Hearing on 3/13/18*

Committee members took note that all the comments regarding the budget were positive and in favor of the budget.

4. *Other Business*

Wanted to clarify the message that the BOE should do the best job that they can while being fiscally responsible.

Ann Reed reminded committee members that they should try to attend the Facilities tour on March 17 starting at 8:00 a.m. She also told the committee that members of the BOE will be attending our meeting on Monday, April 2.

ADJOURNMENT:

- Theresa Vogt made a motion to adjourn the meeting;
- Bill Smith seconded the motion to adjourn;
- The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Vogt
RTM Education Clerk