

RTM Education Committee
April 20, 2020
Special Meeting
4:30

Present:

Clara C. Sartori
Barbara L. Thorne
Petr Marousek
Carolina McGoey
Janet F. Grogan
Ann B. Reed
Elizabeth Lucas
Theresa Vogt
Karen McNicoll
Lucy Fiore

Meeting was called to order at 4:30 pm

This was a Special Meeting of the RTM Education Committee to
1) discuss the Board of Education recommended budget for 2020-
2021 and 2) to discuss and consider a team approach (or buddy
system) with the RTM Finance and Budget Committee as a
means to analyze the 2020-2021 Board of Education
recommended Budget.

Discussion of the recommended budget started with concerns
about wanting to understand potential enrollment changes and
the possible influx of students from private and boarding schools
as well as the possibility that outplaced students in residential
settings may not be able to return to those schools. This raises
issues with excess cost concerns. There were also comments
about the number of houses being purchased and rented in town
that will increase the number of potential students next year.

Members of the committee felt that it would be more productive to meet after the Board of Finance meeting on April 27, 2020 in order to have a clearer idea of what the final budget numbers would be.

There was a discussion of the timing of the RTM vote and the issue of the RTM ceding authority to vote on the budget to the Board of Finance.

Discussion ensued around the possibility of using the Buddy System which would mean that members of RTM Education Committee would “buddy up” with members of the Board of Finance in order to allow the BoF to understand our members concerns and for our committee to better understand the point of view of the BoF.

Members of the committee posited that if the RTM did cede authority to the BoF to be the official vote on the budget then perhaps it might make sense to use the buddy system however if the RTM did not cede authority then it probably didn't make sense at this point in the budget process.

Members of the committee felt that as a procedural way to go forward next year the buddy system might make sense but at this stage in the budget process it didn't appear to be useful.

There was a motion to adjourn by Ann Reed, seconded by Theresa Vogt.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:48

Respectfully submitted
Ann Reed
Secretary