

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE
MINUTES
May 14, 2009
7:30 PM**

PRESENT: Charlie Ellis
Paul Avella
Mike Fontanella
Nancy Mizzoni
Shawna Stea

ALSO PRESENT: Diane Bemis
Steve Mark
Marilyn Fedele

ABSENT: Sara Adams, Student Rep.

CALL TO ORDER 7:35 PM

- A. Charlie Ellis called the meeting to order.
- B. Reorganization of School Committee and Subcommittees

Chairman: Paul Avella nominated Charlie Ellis as Chairman, seconded by Shawna Stea. Charlie Ellis accepted. (AYE: Unanimous)

Vice Chairman: Paul Avella nominated Shawna Stea as Vice Chairman, seconded by Nancy Mizzoni. Shawna Stea accepted. (AYE: Unanimous)

Secretary: Nancy Mizzoni nominated Mike Fontanella as Secretary, seconded by Shawna Stea. Mike Fontanella accepted. (AYE: Unanimous)

The subcommittee assignments stayed the same with the exception of No. 3, Evaluation, Mike Fontanella will replace Shawna Stea; No. 9, Oath to Bills and Payroll, Charlie Ellis will replace Mike Fontanella and Shawna Stea will be backup; and No. 12, Representative to Community Services/Park and Recreation Department, Shawna Stea will join Nancy Mizzoni.

- C. On a motion by Shawna Stea and seconded by Paul Avella, it was voted to approve the Consent Agenda. (AYE: Unanimous)

- D. The June School Committee Meeting has been changed from Thursday, June 11 to Thursday, June 18 at the High School.

INTERESTED CITIZENS

None

RECOGNITION

- A. Recognized Valerie Finnerty and Joe Flournoy for their work with Botball at the Middle School as well as Cheryl Harrington for Botball at the High School. Also recognized the Science Department for the excellent showing of the Middle School at the Regional Science Fair held at UMass, Lowell; six of eleven are going on to the State. LEF was recognized for sponsoring the Botball teams.
- B. Recognized Donelan's for their "Tapes for Education" Program.
- C. Recognized the MSBA for their support of the Russell Street School Renovation Program. Also thank you to the Town of Littleton and to Dr. Bemis for getting the ball rolling.
- D. Thank you to Niki Tsongas and the other State Government representatives for their participation in the panel discussion which took place on May 11th at the Middle School.
- E. Charlie Ellis thanked Morgan Lance for the picture she gave him.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- A. Dr. Bemis presented a personnel update.
- B. Busing Registration begins Monday, May 18 through Wednesday, June 24, in the Central Office. We did not raise the busing fee, but we did institute a late registration fee. Change 2.1 miles to "greater than 2.0 miles".
- C. On a motion by Paul Avella and seconded by Nancy Mizzoni, it was voted to approve the restructuring of Department Heads to Curriculum Coordinators as outlined by Superintendent Bemis on March 4, 2009. (AYE: Unanimous)

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. School Building Committee. The renovation for the Russell Street School passed at both Town Meeting and Town Election. Bid for asbestos abatement is out; bid for moving and storage is going out. Public meeting with DRA on August 27 at 7:00 p.m. to show progress and the plans.
- B. Superintendent Evaluation. The evaluation timeline was discussed. Results of the Superintendent's evaluation will be announced at the meeting of June 18, 2009.

- C. Budget Subcommittee – we did well at Town Meeting. The budget process at the State House is still very much up in the air. We will not get all of our FY09 funds.
- D. Safety and Security Subcommittee. Met with representatives from the Police and Fire Departments. Good suggestions from the Resource Officer. Next meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2009.
- E. Policy Subcommittee – received policies from different schools with reference to religious holidays. There will be a public meeting on this subject May 28 at 7:00 p.m.
- F. Park and Rec Subcommittee – possible fee structures on buildings; holding a joint meeting to discuss building usage, fee structures, needs, etc. at 7:00 p.m. June 16.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. School Committee and Administration Summer Workshops. Vision discussion.
- B. Municipalities Legislation – Deals with responsibilities and accountability for the towns and cities. There is a push at the State level for regionalization. Paul Avella to draft a letter.

INTERESTED CITIZENS

None

ADJOURNMENT

- A. On a motion by Shawna Stea and seconded by Nancy Mizzoni, it was voted to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of Exemption 3, Contract Negotiation Strategy, with no intention to return to Open Session. (Roll Call: Nancy Mizzoni, AYE;; Mike Fontanella, AYE; Shawna Stea, AYE; Paul Avella, AYE, and Charlie Ellis, AYE).