

September 7, 2016

A meeting of the Wareham School Committee was held on Wednesday, September 7, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Wareham Middle School Auditorium. Members present were Mel Lazarus, Judy Caporiccio, Geoff Swett, Mary Morgan, and Dr. Cliff Sylvia as well as Superintendent Dr. Shaver-Hood and recording secretary, Mrs. Ruiz. Student representative Jamie Read was absent.

Chair Lazarus called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He announced that the meeting was being taped for video and audio by WCTV and an audio recording by Mrs. Ruiz.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

GOOD NEWS

Dr. Shaver-Hood shared the following news:

- September 29, 2016 - 25th anniversary of Wareham High School at 3PM
- September 21, 2016 - UN International Peace Day - upcoming events at WMS
- Heart Association - Jump Rope for Heart and Hoops for Heart - thanked us for participation at WMS, Minot, Decas

Beyond School Time Student Presentation

Mrs. Fondulis, Director BST and CARE, was present with staff members Ms. Barton, Ms. Williams, Ms. Gagnon, Ms. Martin, and Ms. Stahmer. Students present were Jessica Janak, Lucas Demoranville, and Marcel Jones. Mrs. Fondulis briefly outlined the program. The theme for summer CARE was "We are the World" with a focus on homelessness and hunger. 229 students were enrolled in the five-week program this summer with a 91% attendance rate. It was a hands on learning approach and community partners were involved. The 43 exchange students from China participated in the morning and they demonstrated classes in the afternoon.

The students explained their Service Learning project. First they found a need, assessed and researched the need(s), decided on a project and named it "Learn'nWalk toward Ending Hunger". They held an event at the track to raise funds for the STAGE backpack program and invited people to walk the track and give a donation and pledges which raised over \$300.

The Committee thanked the students for their hard work and the presentation.

Minutes of the Meeting

Dr. Sylvia moved acceptance of the minutes of August 24, 2016, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Lazarus)

Acceptance of Gift(s) - None

Creation of a Special Olympics Track & Field Team

Megan Kashner, SpEd Teacher and Coach at WHS, presented an opportunity to bring unified sports to WHS starting with a track and field team. The team is for kids with and without disabilities to compete on the same team and train together side by side. It will be a subdivision of our track team with its own meets. Other towns in our area have unified teams and the MIAA is a supporter of this program which was started by Special Olympics. She is proposing to start in the spring of 2017 and looking for 30 students (15/15).

There were questions and comments from committee members.

When asked about budget implications, Ms. Kashner replied that the cost is \$4,000 for the season, which has already been achieved through fundraisers and donations, including start up funds of \$2,000 for the 1st year and \$1,000 for the 2nd year from Special Olympics. The major cost is for transportation and a coach stipend.

Dr. Shaver-Hood thanked Ms. Kashner for her efforts.

Dr. Sylvia moved to approve the creation of unified sports at WHS, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Ms. Kashner announced the next fundraiser will be September 17th, Comedy Night at Salerno's.

Selection of Legal Counsel

Dr. Shaver-Hood announced that since Attorney Stonberg is retiring this fall, she had sent out four letters seeking proposals for new counsel. Three responses were received from Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten, the Law Office of Joseph A. Emerson, Jr., and Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane. Attorney Stonberg will be remaining with the firm of Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten on a consulting basis and Wareham will be assigned Greg Pagnini.

Dr. Shaver-Hood recommended the appointment of the firm, Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten, as legal counsel for the upcoming school year.

Mr. Swett moved the recommendation of the Superintendent, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

The Committee discussed the advantages and disadvantages of each firm.

For the record, Mr. Swett read a sentence in the proposal of Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane with grammatical errors, "We regularly issues complimentary advisories to its clients to keep them informed of changing legal issues that affect municipal and school government."

There was also discussion on the rates to be charged by each firm.

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

Vote on Official Delegate to MASC Joint Conference

Traditionally the chair has acted as delegate, but due to the Chair's current physical condition, Dr. Sylvia recommended Mr. Swett be the voting delegate.

Dr. Sylvia moved to appoint Geoff Swett as voting delegate at the MASC fall conference, seconded by Ms. Caporiccio.

VOTE: yea - 4; nay - 0; abstain - 1 (Mr. Swett)

Chair Lazarus appointed Ms. Caporiccio as alternate delegate.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Shave-Hood gave an overview of the opening of our schools.

School Committee Reports

Mr. Lazarus presented the timeline for the evaluation process of the superintendent:

- ☐ September 21st Superintendent presents her self-evaluation to the committee
- ☐ October 5th Committee Members give their individual evaluations to the Chair
- ☐ October 19th the Chair presents the Superintendent's Evaluation at the public meeting

Mr. Swett wished to conduct the evaluation process after a presentation of assessment results.

Chair Lazarus stated that he would leave the schedule as is and if we don't have the assessment data by September 21st we can bump the reporting dates up.

Any other business - None

Dr. Sylvia moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Morgan

VOTE: yea - 5; nay - 0; abstain - 0

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: 

List of documents:

Correspondence: Newsletter, Personnel List, Vacancy Notice
Legal Counsel, Selection Criteria
Legal Services Proposal - Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane
Legal Counsel Emerson & Emerson
Legal Counsel Brody, Hardoon, Perkins & Kesten
MASC Official Delegate Form

