

Ad Hoc Committee for Inter-district Education Cost Sharing
Governance Sub-Committee
Regular Meeting

December 14, 2021

10AM

Call to Order: Gary Greenberg called the Meeting to order at 10:02AM.

Roll Call: Gary Greenberg, Kathy Donahue, Rose Bisson, Tom McAvoy, Allan Cahill.
Others Present: Attorney Fred Dorsey, Recording Secretary Dayna Arriola.

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Allan Cahill, seconded by Kathy Donahue, to table the November 9, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously. The minutes will be distributed to committee members.

Executive Session

Motion: Allan Cahill, seconded by Kathy Donahue, to enter Executive Session for the purpose of reviewing a draft document. Motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session convened at 10:04 AM. Those present: Gary Greenberg, Allan Cahill, Kathy Donahue, Rose Bisson, Tom McAvoy, Attorney Dorsey.

Public session reconvened at 11:07AM.

General Discussion

There was discussion concerning at what point and in what way the committee should engage the Hampton and Scotland Boards of Education in the process of forming a cooperative agreement between the two schools. There was also discussion regarding the need to obtain input from the public. Gary Greenberg suggested that the committee present the finished draft to the Boards of Education first and that changes be made as necessary, followed by informational sessions for the general public, and then an advisory vote of the townspeople before the Boards of Education make the final decision on a cooperative agreement. Kathy Donahue stressed the need for townspeople to review and understand what is being considered, stating her belief that the Boards of Education should consider public opinion in their decision. She reminded members that the committee was established because of the history of declining enrollment and consequent costs. Tom McAvoy suggested that the Boards of Education, rather than the committee, bring the proposal to the townspeople, and Rose Bisson agreed that it should be driven by the school boards. She suggested that the Boards of Education review the information in an executive session and obtain input from the Boards' attorneys, making changes as needed prior to presenting to the public. It was noted that the draft version might change after the two Boards of Education negotiate the terms. By general consent it was agreed that representatives from the committee should meet with the Boards of Education to present the findings of both the governance and programming sub-committees, with a possible executive session included in the agenda. It was also decided that the superintendents of both schools be involved on the invitation of their respective school board Chairmen, who will provide the superintendents with the documents for their review in advance of the meeting. A full committee meeting was scheduled for January 11 at 7PM, when the best way to involve the Boards of Education will be considered and decided by all members.

Audience for Citizens: none.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the Sub-Committee, the Meeting adjourned at 11:27 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dayna McDermott Arriola
Recording Secretary