

FINAL MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN MEETING
October 3, 2008

Present

Board of Selectmen: Chairman Glenn Trindade, Selectmen Andrew Espinosa, Dennis Crowley, Richard Dunne, John Foresto, Town Administrator, Suzanne Kennedy and Board Secretary, Wendy Harrington was present.

School Committee: Chairman Diane Borgatti, Debora Trindade, Carol Bernstein, Dawn Rice-Norton, Steven Dahl, Shelley Wieler, Superintendent, Dr. Judith Evans and Director of Operations and Finance David Verdolino

Guest: Richard Boucher, IT Director and Raphaela Rozanski, resident

7:10 *p.m.* – Chairman Trindade called the combined Selectmen and School Committee meeting to order in a function room at Restaurant 45, Medway.

Public Comments: None.

The meeting began with the Board of Selectman Chairman asking the School Committee Chair if there would be a dedication of the Coakley Building. This building is located at the High School turf field and serves as a ticket booth, concession stand and bathrooms. Chairman Borgatti advised the group that a sub committee, which includes Mrs. Wieler and Ms. Rice-Norton are working towards this goal with the hopes that it is completed and a ceremony to take place during the Thanksgiving Day varsity football game.

Dinner was ordered with attendees being issued individual checks by the waitress.

Approximately 8:42pm open discussions began with Dr. Evan's assessment of the town and school system, as she has recently become the Superintendent of schools. Dr. Evans explained that Medway has a solid base but is weak in areas of technology and education of students with special needs. She believes there needs to be a reallocation of existing resources and stabilization of the faculty. Thinking outside the box and a transparent budget process are necessary to continue to grow.

Selectman Chairman Trindade explained that the Board of Selectmen believes that the schools are town property and walls are not productive. He agreed that transparency is the key to a successful budget. Chairman Trindade suggested a joint School Committee, Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee Meeting in the near future.

Discussions continued throughout the evening regarding budgets, budget process and future budgets in The Town of Medway. Many members commented on the economic challenges that face our town. Members expressed concern in presenting these challenges to the taxpayers and the need to ensure that the residents are educated on available funds, budgets and budget constraints.

Personal opinions regarding teacher contract negotiations and town employee contracts were stated as the member's emphasized fairness to all employees of the town.

The evening's discussions concluded with talks on how to educate the community, the definition of level funded versus level service, and how to promote a sense of fairness when deciding the final budget.

9:35pm There being no further business to discuss Chairman Trindade moved that the regular session meeting be adjourned. Selectman Espinosa seconded; No discussion: all in favor (voted)

The next regular session of the Board of Selectmen is scheduled for October 6, 2008 at 7:00pm in Sanford Hall.

The next regular session of the School Committee is scheduled for October 16, 2008 at 7:00pm in the School Committee Room at Medway Middle School.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Harrington
Board of Selectmen Secretary

*Minutes approved as amended 10/27/08