Joint School Board & Select Board Subcommittee Meeting Minutes September 24[,] 2014

Present: Chris Shipp, Lauren Lavoie Sturgeon, Richard Brown, Paul Punturieri

Audience: Nancy Wright

The meeting opened at 10:03 am.

It was agreed by all members that this would be an informal subcommittee and there was a consensus that no chair would be needed, but it was agreed that minute taking would be rotated amongst members. Paul agreed to take the minutes of this meeting. Agenda for the meeting was discussed. While the intent of this meeting was to discuss recreation and shared facilities and resources, it was agreed that the subcommittee will look at any issues that affect both boards.

Shared use of facilities was discussed particularly in the summer months when recreation camps are in session. Not being able to use the gym in inclement weather was an issue for the Recreation Department as camp days are cancelled when it rains. What are the concerns? The refinishing of the gym floor was stated as one reason. Just about all school gym facilities have the floors refinished during the summer and we are often at the mercy of the contractors who book these jobs well in advance. How long does it take to be safe to use after work is done? Can protective covering be used so that the camp can use it? Richard suggested we need to look at what it is that the Recreation Department needs in terms of space for summer programs. What programs are currently run and what programs would they like to run, but need more space? It was understood that the schools always have priority over use of their facilities, but are there windows? Richard agreed to find out from the school district what the process is for floor refinishing/schedules and the availability of the school facilities. Chris agreed to meet with Donna Kuethe to discuss recreation needs for school facilities.

The committee then opened the floor for other issues that may affect both boards. The BRC Gym Feasibility Study was discussed. Getting the word out for the focus groups and surveys was critical to the study success and it was agreed that all means available to both boards would be requested to get the word out. The Village Vision Committee was also discussed within the context that the defined village includes the school buildings and the School Board should be kept aware of its progress. Senior needs were briefly discussed and a question of whether the schools could be used for adult education. It was thought that this is an area where a group would need to indicate a need and present it to the school. There was further discussion about use of the school gym on weekends by some residents. Do they have keys and is the facility available to anyone in town who wants to use it?

It was hoped that the next full joint School Board/BoS meeting could occur in January. The subcommittee agreed to meet November 20th at 9 a.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55am.

Date Respectfully submitted, Paul Punturieri