

Regular Meeting, June 16, 2014, Orleans Town Hall

ORLEANS TOWN CLERK

Present for the Committee: Josh Stewart, Chair, Ed Rohmer, Ginger Marks, Gail Briere, David Abel OCT 22 3:42PM

For the Administration: Dr. Richard Hoffmann, Giovanna Venditti, Diane Carreiro

Others in Attendance: FinCom liaison, OES staff members, members of the community

C. May

REORGANIZATION

Dr. Hoffmann called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m. He called for nominations for chairman. Mr. Stewart was nominated by Mr. Abel. There were no further nominations. Mr. Stewart was unanimously elected and assumed the chair. The following individuals were unanimously elected to the positions indicated: Vice Chair: Gail Briere; Secretary: Marcia Templeton; Payroll Authorizer: Ginger Marks; Payroll Authorizer Alternate: Ed Rohmer.

Selected for the following subcommittees were: Policy-Josh Stewart; Central Office Budget-Gail Briere; Negotiations-David Abel; Transportation-Ginger Marks.

Committee representative to the Cape Cod Collaborative is Ed Rohmer, and the PTA liaison is Ginger Marks.

Union No. 54 voting members are Josh Stewart, Gail Briere, and Ed Rohmer. Alternates are Ginger Marks and David Abel.

CALL TO ORDER/AGENDA CHANGES – Dr. Hoffmann said he would be discussing MSBA later in the agenda.

CITIZENS SPEAK – Mr. Seth Wilkinson, a parent, spoke to the committee regarding the very popular afterschool program. He commented that he didn't feel his family has fair access to the program. He offered his support and assistance to come up with a way to better allocate the program in the future. Mr. Wilkinson was thanked for his comments and the committee asked that the afterschool program be placed on its summer agenda for discussion.

RECOGNITIONS – Ms. Carreiro, in her written report, named 12 staff members who contributed to the huge success of the OES Talent Show which is in its third year. This being Ms. Carreiro's last school committee meeting as Principal of Orleans Elementary School, Mr. Stewart recognized and thanked her for her years of service to the school community, and support of all the various committees. Mr. Stewart also acknowledged all the work she did on making the playground project the success it is. The committee presented her with a gift of appreciation. Ms. Carreiro then introduced Joanne Harrington, STEM lab teacher. She recently visited the Marconi Center which is rich in communication technology. She was given some kits, free of charge, that have been provided by a grant from Verizon. Committee members received informational handouts pertaining to the Marconi Center and the kits. Ms. Carreiro acknowledged receiving grants from Stop & Shop (\$853) and the Federated Church (\$6000 for Calmer Choice). Field Day went forward thanks to the efforts of the staff. The regular PE teacher is out on a medical leave. So far, thirty-two kindergarteners are signed up for September. Mr. Abel asked about the teacher evaluation process recently completed. Ms. Carreiro indicated it was a lot of work and very time consuming. Administrators and staff are looking for ways to refine it going

forward. Committee members received the 2014 summer building use schedule, and planned projects. The Type to Learn 4 program has been implemented. The FY14 Technology Summary and a copy of the Capital Plan projects was also handed out.

Ron Collins, the town's Building and Facilities Manager, handed out an email which discussed replacing the kitchen ceiling tiles. Not enough money was budgeted for this project due to additional work regarding wiring, sprinkler heads, and air/heat detectors being in the way. The cost will be quite a bit more (\$18,000) than the \$5000 budgeted. *In order to fund the project, the committee, by motion made by Mr. Abel and seconded by Mr. Rohmer, unanimously voted to approve up to \$25,000 for the project by using money (\$13,500) from number 70 (Playfields), and a portion of number 74 (Carpet Floor Finish) in the Capital Plan.* The playfields will be moved out to the next year. The committee asked that LED lighting be installed.

Mr. Collins then discussed the Computer Lab Wire Management Project. UL rated wiring and furniture need to be installed. The electrical engineer brought in to assess the lab indicated more circuits need to be added. Extension cords cannot be used permanently. The cost of wiring is in the \$5-6000 range. Computer tables will cost \$6000 with money coming from year end funds. There is \$20,000 in the Capital Plan for technology improvements. It is anticipated that money will be used to upgrade teachers' computers, another Smartboard, and continue iPad cart outreach. Mr. Collins suggested using money for the lab repairs from number 71 (\$13,500) rainwater discharge. *A motion was made by Ms. Briere and seconded by Mr. Abel to approve up to \$15,000 for computer lab repairs by using the money budgeted in number 71 (\$13,500 rainwater discharge) and the balance from technology improvements (\$20,000) in the Capital Plan. The vote was unanimous.* Mr. Collins departed at 4:45 p.m.

PRIORITY BUSINESS

PARCC vs MCAS

Dr. Hoffmann explained that the MA DESE is asking Districts to determine whether they will continue with MCAS testing or switch to the new PARCC assessment next school year. Keith Gauley, Assistant Superintendent, and Dr. Hoffmann gave a Powerpoint presentation to further explain the issue. If the committee decides in favor by June 30th, PARCC is guaranteed. If not, there is no guarantee PARCC will be available. PARCC is much more aligned to the new curriculum, it takes less time to take the test than MCAS, it costs less, it can be taken online as well as with paper and pencil, there is flexibility in testing schedule, and there is quicker return on the results. The MCAS Science test will continue, as will the MCAS test for grade 10 students through 2018. Dr. Hoffmann noted it will be a difficult decision for school committees. Dr. Hoffmann and Mr. Gauley were recommending going with PARCC. Wellfleet Elementary School voted to go with PARCC. The Region voted to postpone its decision until August or September. Ms. Briere felt there would be some benefit holding off a decision until the fall. The committee needs to do what's best for the children, and the parents need to be included in the decision. Mr. Rohmer concurred saying the stakeholders need to be engaged. Mr. Stewart noted that his school piloted PARCC in the 8th grade. The teachers felt it was tough and different. When to begin keyboarding skills was a topic of discussion. *A motion was made by Mr. Abel and seconded by Ms. Briere to table the decision regarding PARCC vs MCAS for a future meeting. The vote was unanimous.*

FY14 Budget Update

Ms. Venditti reviewed the most recent School Expenditure Report. She highlighted changes to several accounts and spoke about the end-of-year spending plan. The present balance, as indicated on page 7 of the report, is (\$7040.99). The end-of-year spending plan includes transferring \$30,000 from the health insurance account into the operating budget; unencumbering \$13,815 from the Substitute line item, reclassifying cafeteria salaries to the Cafeteria Revolving Account in the amount of \$4,000; using School Choice funds in the amount of \$17,612. The total is \$58,386. The cost of purchasing the Wonders Reading Program is \$47,521. Substitute expenses amount to \$7,000 (projected use through June 30th), leaving a year-end balance of \$3,865. *A motion was made by Ms. Briere and seconded by Mr. Abel to approve the transfer of \$30,000 from the health insurance account to the operating budget. The vote was unanimous.* Mr. Abel requested a spreadsheet outlining these changes. Also included in the June packet was the Cafeteria Revolving Fund report.

Bullying Survey

Dr. Ann Caretti, Special Needs Director, said what a great pleasure it had been working with Ms. Carreiro and wished her well. She also welcomed Ms. Briere as the newest member of the committee. The OES report of the Bullying Survey was in the packet. Dr. Caretti said the survey had been developed by the MA Aggression Center (MARC), and they compiled the results. Ninety-eight students in grades 3-5 participated in the survey during computer class. She noted some limitations with the survey and looked forward to doing our own survey. She and Dr. Hoffmann observed a session of Calmer Choice at OES recently. The school is doing a lot to prevent bullying, but she feels the term needs to be further defined and spoken about.

Technology Update

Barbara Lavoine, Technology Director, attended the meeting to discuss the recently concluded IT Assessment performed by Whalley Computer Associates, Inc. Committee members received copies of the 80-page technical report along with definitions used in the report. The committee is looking for a technology plan which indicates feedback from the teachers regarding their frustrations, ways to make technology reliable, and as an aid in future budgeting. Ms. Lavoine indicated planning, budgeting, and resources are the keys. Mr. Rohmer suggested a teacher survey might be helpful. Ms. Lavoine was thanked for her report.

Update on Security System

The bid opening was June 5. Ms. Venditti said no bids had been received. The subcommittee met on Friday to strategize. The bid was reposted after the scope of the work was reduced. The vestibule and transaction window are paramount. The Principal's office still needs to be moved. The secretarial area, for now, will remain unchanged. Mr. Rohmer has had concerns expressed to him that the front doors are still not being locked. Mrs. Marks noted there had been some setbacks, and the subcommittee had had to follow state guidelines. July 9th is the new bid opening. Ms. Venditti feels there is still time to complete the project by the time school opens in September.

Policy Update

Copies of policies ADDA Background Checks, and ADDA-R DCJIS Model CORI Policy were contained in the packet for the committee's review. The policies are verbatim MASC wording. *A motion was made by Ms. Briere and seconded by Mrs. Marks to approve in form for a first reading ADDA Background Checks Policy and ADDA-R DCJIS Model Cori Policy. The vote was unanimous.*

Dr. Hoffmann said the OES window project has been invited to go into the MSBA Accelerated Repair Program. It is looking good for \$300,000 in state funds. Town Administrator, John Kelly, will have to do a lot of the work to keep the project moving. Mr. Abel and Mrs. Marks will serve on the subcommittee. The project, if fully approved, is a year and a half away. The next step will be to write a letter to MSBA outlining how the school has been maintained. *A motion was made by Mr. Abel and seconded by Mrs. Marks to authorize School Committee Chairman Josh Stewart as signatory for MSBA documents. The vote was unanimous.*

OTHER REPORTS AND INFORMATION

Cape Cod Collaborative – No report at this time.

Playground Subcommittee – Mr. Stewart said Clayton Circle residents have expressed concerns about the increased traffic. The subcommittee is looking at options for emergency and handicapped access. There is still some money left that could be used to improve pathways. The subcommittee will begin work in earnest in the fall.

Transportation Subcommittee

Policy Subcommittee –

Preschool Enrollment – Report in packet.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Mrs. Marks and seconded by Mr. Rohmer to approve the minutes of May 19, 2014 as printed. The vote was unanimous.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was being called to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining with union personnel and will not return to open session. A motion was made by Mr. Abel and seconded by Mrs. Marks to go into Executive Session. A roll call vote was taken – Mr. Rohmer – Yes; Mrs. Marks – Yes; Ms. Briere – Yes; Mr. Abel – Yes; Mr. Stewart – Yes

PAYMENT OF BILLS

ADJOURNMENT – It was moved, seconded, and voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.
Respectfully submitted,

Marcia M. Templeton, Secretary
Orleans School Committee