

~Approved Minutes ~

Newbury Town School District
Newbury Elementary School Board
Tuesday, March 19, 2019

Present

Board Members: Paul Jewett, Emmy Hausman, Danielle Corti

Visitors: Robin Barone, Alma Roystan, Jane Labun, Claude Phipps, Lindsay LeBeau

Call to order: P. Jewett called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM

Agenda Review: Move the discussion re: MOU with Town first, then discuss playground.

Memorandum of Understanding with Town of Newbury: Discussion of the MOU that Jim Barlow created. R. Barone is here as a representative of the village trustees and she has a recommendation to include the statement signed in November by the town, village and school as part of the MOU. She also has some concerns as to the wording in the "uses" section regarding reciprocity of conflict issues. P. Jewett has a concern about the wording in the document of the school being responsible for all maintenance on the common. He points out that the school is responsible for some maintenance but not all. A. Roystan will bring these concerns back to Jim Barlow and another draft will be created to consider. Discussion re: women's club land and the common. A. Roystan states that most people don't know that the women's club owns a parcel of the common. R. Barone has a suggestion for some kind of sign to be put up on the common with some history and information about the different owners. C. Phipps suggests using language in the MOU to indicate that the women's club land is not included in the MOU. Discussion re: policy on use of the common. R. Barone suggests using language that explains the women's club land as distinct from the common. R. Barone also suggests wording in the document that gives the Town more authority as the owners of the land. Discussion of Facility use agreement. C. Phipps suggests re-naming the documents for clarity and labeling page numbers as 1 of 3. R. Barone has a concern about the town having some authority if the new district does not follow the agreement.

12:46 R. Barone and A. Roystan exit

Playground project: Lindsay LeBeau gives a recap of the project and states that so far over \$10,000 has been raised. Fundraising is currently on hold until situation with women's club land and septic is figured out. C. Phipps asks if the new design will disturb the trees? L. LeBeau states no they are incorporated in the design. Discussion of the women's club septic and the agreement reached years ago. During the last playground renovation, the women's club gave a portion of their land to the school in return for the school paying \$13,000.00 for the women's club septic system install. J. Labun has documents and invoices from the past. Currently the playground sits on the leach field for the church septic. C. Phipps concern is that any drilling or pulling up if existing structures would compromise the septic system. D. Corti has a concern re: playgrounds built on leach fields. Discussion of liability and insurance issues. P. Jewett will consult with Bruce Williams.

1:12 pm C. Phipps and J. Labun exit

Approve Minutes: E. Hausman moves to approve the minutes from 3/5/2019. P. Jewett seconds. D. Corti abstains. Motion passed

Correspondence: Request for bid waiver granted for floor bids dated 5/28/2019. Need some clarification from OESU on this.

Payables: D. Corti moves to approve and authorize the board chair to sign the following:

- A payroll warrant dated 8/30/2018 for \$88,540.28
- A payroll warrant dated 3/15/2019 for \$65,310.02
- An accounts payable warrant dated 3/18/2019 for \$31,539.09 E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed. D. Corti notes that the invoice for Bob Stevens work with the principal search committee for \$5,000.00 is included in this.

Contracts: A contract for Carla Horniak is discussed. There is some confusion with it. P. Jewett will discuss with C. Lindsley.

Principal Search update: Morgan Moore has been offered the position and has accepted. P. Jewett has discussed salary and mentorship with E. Knisley. E. Knisley will be reaching out to Morgan Moore. P. Jewett states that he thought the whole process went well. E. Hausman states that the individual staff input was very important to the whole process. P. Jewett states that he would like to establish more of a connection between the staff and the board. A meeting will be set up with the board, C. Lindsley and M. Moore to assist with the transition.

Act 46 update: E. Knisley has been in touch with Dan French re: recommendations for OUUSD transitional board. The recommendation is for the transitional board to meet right away. E. Knisley has suggested meeting right after the OUUSD meeting on March 25, 2019. P. Jewett has concerns about the time crunch to pass a budget and to elect a new board by May 7. Candidates for the new school board will need to have their petitions signed by April 1st. This leaves only a week for this process.

Budget Discussion: Meeting scheduled for March 21, 2019 with Lori Blood and Janet Mitchell. All board members express concerns about using an ADM calculation instead of an equalized per pupil calculation. The state has been unable/unwilling to give the OESU the equalized per pupil number. Relying on the ADM number will definitely make NES budget go up and Newbury taxpayers bills to increase by a significant margin.

Negotiations update: P. Jewett states that they have reached a tentative agreement with the teachers. D. Corti moves to authorize the board chair to sign the 1 year agreement between Orange East Education Association / VT NEA and BES, NES, Oxbow and OESU. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed.

2:24 pm P. Jewett moved to adjourn. E. Hausman seconds. Motion passed

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Fredella -minutes clerk