

## THETFORD TOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT

Tuesday, March 10, 2020  
Thetford Elementary School  
**Approved Minutes**

Shannon Darrah convened the meeting at 6:36 p.m.

### **PRESENT:**

**School Board:** Shannon Darrah, Charlie Buttrey, Donna Pluta, Megan Snider, Julie Acker

**Principal:** Chance Lindsley     **OESU:** Emilie Knisley

**Community:** Kimberly Remillard, Nick Clark (Selectboard liaison), Dan Grossman and Dana Grossman (notary publics), Mary Bryant (arrived at 7:16).

**Swearing in** of Charlie Buttrey, Julie Acker, Donna Pluta by the Grossmans.

### **Board Reorganization:**

MOTION: (Buttrey/Snider) moved/seconded to nominate Shannon Darrah as Board Chair (unanimous)

MOTION: (Snider/Pluta) to nominate Charlie Buttrey, as Vice Chair (unanimous)

MOTION: (Buttrey/Snider) to nominate Julie Acker as Board Clerk (unanimous)

MOTION: (Acker/Snider) to nominate Shannon Darrah as TA Rep (unanimous)

MOTION: (Acker/Darrah)to nominate Donna Pluta, Megan Snider and Charlie Buttrey as OESU Reps (unanimous)

Grossmans left at 6:45

**Agenda Review:** approved as amended.

### **Review and Approve Minutes**

MOTION: (Acker/Snider) to approve the minutes of 2/11/2020 as amended (unanimous).

### **Review of Orders**

The book was passed around for people to see what orders have been signed.

### **Public Comment /Correspondence**

Received two correspondences that will be discussed during executive session to protect confidentiality.

### **Executive Session**

MOTION: (Buttrey/Acker) to enter executive session to discuss a student matter at 6:48pm. Out of executive session at 7:03pm. MOTION: (Buttrey/Snider) to approve a TES tuition request for the 2020/2021 school year.

## **Principal Report**

- COVID-19 - TES is taking it very seriously, an email was sent today stating that the school is keeping on top of recommendations from the State Dept of Health.
- Chance wanted to know about the history of setting the calendar, and how it works with TA as they don't have their calendar out yet. From Emilie - the SU works regionally to set a calendar, individual schools then use the SU calendar as a base for the school calendar. Shannon stated that TES then works with TA to align vacations as much as possible. Chance will meet with Carrie on this.
- Laura Sharpless did a great job with the science fair this year. Kate Hill was doing announcements.
- Town meeting went great, and thanks to Julie for making it there.

## **Proposal for Site Analysis of School Property – Nick Clark**

Nick talked about how the town has long term strategic plans, and the school has long term strategic plans. The septic and solar array is on 40 acres. The school bought it from the Girl Scouts years ago. It is tax exempt. The town is looking at the options for use of town owned properties to meet some strategic goals like affordable housing, recycling, storage, etc. Nick was wondering if the town could have someone come in to assess the septic land to determine suitability for another use. The board agreed to allow the town to have the land surveyed and soil tested.

## **Town Energy Committee Ideas – Nick Clark, Mary Bryant**

Energy Committee - Possible Ideas to reorganize the energy committee to involve the school district. The energy planning coordinator is going to be regional. The school does not have an energy coordinator. The town has resources, so why not join the town and school together, and have them look at the school for energy savings, be more green. Discussion followed regarding the logistics of forming a committee between 2 municipalities. Nick clarified that the role of the committee would be advisory only, boards would consider recommendations made by the committee. The committee now has a lot of knowledge about federal, state, and local programs and fund sources. The board agreed that it was a good idea to get the school district involved, and Nick will look further into it.

Mary discussed a program called "Window Dressers" based in Maine. All TES windows are single pane, this program is an option for energy savings until the windows can actually be replaced. Grants are available to fund the purchase of materials, and the inserts are built by volunteers. The Thetford Energy Committee successfully grant-funded and outfitted them for over a dozen homes in town. Further discussion ensued. Questions about storage during summer, no access to opening the windows while the inserts are installed during the winter. Mary will apply for a grant - if the school doesn't want to go through with it the money can be sent back.

Nick and Mary left at 7:50 pm

## **TA/TES Building Maintenance Agreement 2020/21 Discussion:**

The agreement is for one year and essentially the same, just some language cleaned up, thus not having to be bid out. Next year will look at potential for a multi-year contract that could include grounds, those changes will have to be sent out to bid.

MOTION: (Snider/Pluta) to authorize the board chair to sign the Maintenance Agreement contract. (unanimous)

**Executive Session:**

MOTION: (Buttrey/Snider) to enter executive session at 8:00pm to discuss a student matter at (unanimous). Out of executive session at 8:02pm. No action taken.

MOTION: (Buttrey/Acker) to enter executive session at 8:02pm to discuss teacher negotiations, the premature dissemination of which could place the board at a substantial disadvantage. Out of executive session at 8:27pm. No action taken

**Adjournment:**

MOTION: (Snider/Pluta) to adjourn at 8:28pm (unanimous).

Minutes Prepared By:

Ginni Balch, Minutes Clerk

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

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Julie Acker, Board Clerk

**FUTURE MEETINGS:**

3/24/2020 Thetford Town School District Meeting

6:30 pm