

In Attendance: Judy Vaughn, Allan Page, Don Bagley, Dick Guy, Paul Beaulieu, Fred Kidder, Amanda Marshall, Victor Dubie, John Barone, Brian Emerson, Kevin Dexter,

RB Employees: K. Lawrence, T. Puffer, K. Chobanian, C. Ford, T. Heidenreich, Nancy Manning,

December Minutes: [Spell Allana Page], 1st Don Bagley, 2nd Paul Beaulieu. passed.
abstain: Fred,

RAB members welcomed:

Covid 19 Update:

Colleen Ford presented an overview of RB procedures and successes. 7 schools are included in our community. A few close calls, but so far no one has been ill in our building.

Mr. Emerson noted that Colleen Ford has a huge job to do. Mr. Emerson noted that RB will continue with the hybrid model even as area high schools may increase days per week of attendance. Some programs are open 4 days per week with limitations. Our students want hands-on, but we are grateful we get them for 5 hours per week in person.

Covid Grant—

Brian noted that we are spending grant money judiciously. We may save money on our local budget. We are grateful for the grant sources. Nancy Manning is careful with managing accounts.

Vacancies on the Board—

Victor Dube (business owner at large) and Amanda Marshall (parent of a current student) joined the meeting. Victor Dube noted his business experience. He did study building trades and had an interest in machining. Brian Emerson noted Victor has been a successful business owner. He runs and owns Aldrich General Store.

Amanda Marshall noted she lives in No. Haverhill, working in IT for SAU 23. A WHS grad and 2004 RB grad in Cosmetology. Her daughter is a current cosmetology student at RB.

Vote: motion for acceptance x 2. Fred Kidder; Dick Guy, 2nd.
Approved. Unanimous.

Recruitment Planning—

Katherine Chobanian noted we are optimistic about recruitment. We have great relationships with sending schools. Adaptations will include remote outreach, including social media platforms. Katherine will present to all the sending school 10th graders and note the variety of offerings and pathways. People who apply will have virtual visits with instructors, hoping to have an open house format in the late spring. Tracy Puffer noted that Katherine has created program videos that represent solid learning.

Marketing and outreach.

Bob Jones noted that Tony Daniels uploads our work to social media. Bob noted he has showcased our new Cosmetology program teacher. Tracy Puffer was successful doing a campaign to promote adult education for Heavy Equipment. Businesses who promote work-based learning are highlighted in advertisements, including the Chamber logo and support. Mini-courses (45-minute classes) were highlighted in this last 4 weeks of ads. February will include the adult welding program, starting in March. The Cyber Security program was promoted by the instructor successfully. We recognized 54 New Hampshire businesses who support River Bend and CTE. Bob noted that he constantly takes photos to distribute to our media outlets, maintaining a file for each program. Colleen noted that Bob is a great partner for the marketing brochures for tri-folds-- thank you !

Business / Chamber -- Brian Noted that the chamber was impressed with RB portfolios. They want to help promote the work portfolios.

Work Based Learning

Kevin noted that manufacturing, pre-schools, construction, are all thriving placements. More student placements are available.

Budget Presentation: .

Highlights-- revenue is down for 20-21 about \$230,000. Programs also can not under Covid conditions sell services or products as income-producers to the public. Extra Covid expenses must be expended, however, there are savings on items like field trips, contracted external services, etc.

Extra offsets for Revenue include \$28,500 for technology. The GEAR grant was for \$165,000. Additional savings for reduced program spending have been implemented. The best estimate is for a small deficit of less than \$15,000. WE are lacking easily 10 sophomores who did not attend for 2020-2021, which would have been significant income.

For 2021-2022, proposal-- level funding as much as possible. Challenges in contracted teacher salaries will add \$61,000 new money, to one of the lowest salary scales in the state. Adult Ed will generate revenue for equipment purchases and upkeep. Other savings include LNA can be paid for from VT VSAC. Textbook savings occur as we move to electronic textbooks, some paid by GEAR money. Savings should be \$73,000 +/-.

Tracy will move to a full time position, but Tracy found a Dept of labor grant to fund the Adult Ed position. Instructor costs for Cyber Security will be offset by new revenue from new tuitions. \$122,500 in new expenses will be recouped with new revenue.

Tech Camp is not in the budget for \$15000 for 2022. Money for new freezers will hopefully be grant-funded, likely for the full amount. Fred noted that it's important to include Tech Camp in the budget, as the consequences were not predictable nor avoidable, adding "normalcy" to student life and experiences. Don Bagley agreed that Tech Camp should be included in the budget to

encourage student interest as a business. Victor noted that any savings for cooler / freezer grants could benefit other expenses.

Brian noted that River Bend tuition is at the bottom of all state-wide tuitions of 16 career centers. With fewer students, RB will need to increase tuition to \$16,700 +/- . Brian explained that New Hampshire schools are reimbursed 50% by State money.

Motion: Take last year's level funded and add on the \$137,525 Fred Kidder. Don Bagley 2nd. Approved. Unanimous.

Public comments-- News from Other Schools.

Brian noted that high schools have become more and more flexible and collaborative during the Covid 19 times.

Don Bagley, noted SAU 23 has had good luck expanding school days to 5 per week in person. BMI is still 4 days per week with Wednesday remote, John noted . Kevin noted age groups have a variety of schedules in Rivendell's district.

Brian acknowledged the Cyber Security success that can expand to NH schools like the Thetford program demonstrates. This could grow within many school programs.

Judy quoted Ben Franklin: "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Adjourn-- Don Bagley, 1st. Paul, 2nd. passed.