

Gorham Randolph Shelburne Cooperative School Board

Tuesday, February 19, 2008, 6:30pm

Minutes of Meeting

Randolph Town Hall

GRS Board Members Present: Jo Carpenter, Angela Brown, Michele Cormier, Greg Corrigan, Anne Hill, Kathleen Kelley, Steven Michaud, Carol Miller, and Paul Partenope

Late Arrival:

Absent: Donna Goodrich

Student member: Ashton Paine

Administration: Paul Bousquet, Superintendent; Karen Cloutier, Principal, Ed Fenn; Dave Goyette, Maintenance Director/Transportation Coordinator; Rebecca Hebert-Sweeny, Director of Special Services; Keith Parent, Principal, GMHS; and Pauline Plourde, Business Administrator

Public: Bob Bellavance (GRSEF), Ben Mayerson (Minute Taker)

Press: Bethany Taylor (Berlin Reporter)

I. Call to Order

The meeting of the GRS Cooperative School Board was called to order at 6:35 pm.

II. Public Comments

a. Gorham Randolph Shelburne Education Foundation

Bob Bellavance informed the meeting that the GRSEF is making a donation of \$125,000 for the repairs of the gym floor. The GRSEF has asked that the gym floor work not be done until the roof replacement and gym's structural wall repairs are underway.

A motion was made by Paul Partenope to accept the GRSEF donation. It was seconded by Greg Corrigan to accept; all in favor.

b. Other

Jo Carpenter suggested that an Alternative Funding Committee be formed to look for grants and other sources of donations.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to form an Alternative Funding Committee. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

It was suggested that the committee consist of board members and citizens. Kathleen Kelley, Greg Corrigan, and Michelle Cormier volunteered to be on the committee. There was further discussion of ideas.

Keith Parent informed the meeting that another large donation may be coming soon.

III. Approval of Minutes January 15, 22, 23, and 31, 2008 plus February 5, 2008.

A motion was made by Greg to approve all, public and non-public minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Steve Michaud; all in favor.

IV. Written Communication

a. Resignation of Board Member

The Board was informed that Patricia Flynn has submitted her resignation from the GRS Cooperative School Board, effective February 3, 2008.

A motion was made by Michele Cormier to accept Patricia's resignation with regret. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

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b. NEASC Letter

The January 31, 2008 letter received from NEASC was discussed.

c. Thank You Card

There was a card from Barbara Arnold, thanking the Board for the Shaw's gift card.

d. Parent Concerns Regarding French

There was a discussion about the emails received, pertaining to the reduction of the MS French program. It was noted that there was no petition warrant received seeking money to add the program back.

e. Local Government Center Request for Legal Funds

The letter was discussed.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to join the suit. The motion was seconded by Carol Miller; all in favor. (Paul Bousquet volunteered to be the primary contact person.)

f. Other - Scholarship Program.

Paul Bousquet announced the NHSBA scholarship which consists of five awards of \$1000.00. He has the forms available for anyone who wants one.

V. Report of Student Council Representative

Ashton Paine reported that the winter carnival is the first week of March. Plans are underway with several events.

VI. SPED Director's Report

a. SPED Determination Cooperative

Becky Hebert-Sweeney discussed her report in detail. She announced that there will be a parent's night on March 17th at the GMHS, to discuss SPED. There was Q/A.

VII. Maintenance Director's Report

David Goyette reviewed his written report. Charlie Koth, from Atlantic Energy Solutions, will be coming up next week. David, Keith Parent, and Paul Bousquet reported that a lot of water has been coming in through the roof during a recent thaw.

VIII. Technology Director's Report

Chad Miller was not present. Paul Bousquet reported that many teachers at both schools want Smart Boards. There was further Q/A.

A motion was made by Michele Cormier to accept the donations of equipment. The motion was seconded by Kathleen Kelley; all in favor.

IX. EFS Principal's Report

Karen Cloutier reviewed her written report. There was Q/A.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to accept the contribution of a copier from AVH. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

X. GMHS Principal's Report

Keith Parent reviewed his written report.

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It was announced that a GMHS student, Kayla Demers, was recognized for being the scholar of the month, by the Manchester Paper.

A concern was raised pertaining to the NHDOE memo regarding the conditional approval of the Gorham Middle High School. According to Paul Bousquet, the schools have three years to comply, and then the Board must appear in person to apply for an extension. The three year conditional approval started on February 5, 2008. Paul Bousquet said that the State Board extension request hearing would be 'difficult.'

It was discussed that the \$5.3M might not address the deficiencies to insure full approval. The central office was asked to contact the DOE to get the definitive word as to whether the \$5.3M bond proposal would satisfy State requirements. Board members also asked for research regarding other NH districts that have either been closed, or that have been sanctioned due to building issues.

XI. Business Administrator's Report

a. Monthly Financial Report

Pauline Plourde reviewed her written report and emphasized that the numbers are still subject to change. There was a brief Q/A.

XII. GRS Policies

a. First Readings Attached

Paul P. distributed supplemental pages. He discussed several items in the packet.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to accept the first reading of all the materials. The motion was seconded by Angela Brown; all in favor.

b. Second Readings Attached

A motion was made to accept the second reading by Kathleen Kelley. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; all in favor.

c. Section J for Insertion in Policy Books

Inserts were distributed for all Board members' books.

XIII. Legislative Liaison Report

a. New and Released Policies

Paul Partenope reviewed his report, commenting on several specific sections.

A motion was made to agree to the recommendations that the Legislative Committee made by Michele Cormier. The motion was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

XIV. Building Update

Paul Bousquet said a brochure will be mailed to area residents within a day or two. The District report will also go out with all the building proposal information.

Paul dispelled a community rumor that the State would financially bail out the District, if no bond warrant is approved.

Paul has prepared a memo to all school staff to include and explain all the information regarding the proposed projects.

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David Laurin is making a new presentation board. He will also be asked to price out the items from the Gorham Fire Chief.

Additional public outreach was discussed.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to extend for 15 minutes. The motion was seconded by Greg Corrigan; 8 in favor, 1 opposed (Michelle).

XV. Superintendent's Report

a. Consent Agenda

Paul Bousquet discussed his proposal to go to a consent agenda and how it works. He would like to implement it starting in April. In addition, he proposed having the administrators' reports at the beginning of the meeting, so that they can leave earlier.

There was some discussion regarding ideas for developing the consent agenda.

b. Calendar 2008-2009

Paul Bousquet discussed the proposed calendar. There was brief discussion.

A motion was made by Kathleen Kelley to accept a first reading of the calendar and to approve it. The motion was seconded by Anne Hill; all in favor.

A motion was made by Greg Corrigan to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. There was no second.

c. Board Presentation of Budget/Bond on March 8, 2008

The meeting was adjourned prior to this item.

XVI. Non Public Session

The meeting was adjourned prior to this item.

XVII. GRS School District Meeting Saturday March 8, 2008, GMHS Gymnasium 10:00a.m.

XVIII. Next Regular Meeting March 18, 2008, in the GMHS Library

XIX. Other

XX. Adjournment

A motion was made by Michele Cormier to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Anne Hill.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52pm.

bwm