

Chebeague Island School Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by Vice Chairperson Stephen Todd. Present: School Committee members Stephen Todd, Courtney Doughty, Jen Belesca and Suzanne Rugh (Jeff Putnam excused absent); school staff Superintendent/Principal Mike Pulsifer and Pre-K Teacher Nancy Earnest; and guests Ann Kirkpatrick, Marjorie Stratton, Tracy Ames, Erika Neumann, Christin Nadeau, Mark Dyer, and Lisa Tucker.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Jen Belesca and seconded by Suzanne Rugh to approve the agenda with one change; move item 8b. *Landscape/flower Proposal* up in the agenda. The motion passed 4-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Courtney Doughty and seconded by Jen Belesca to approve the School Committee meeting minutes of May 7, 2019. The motion passed 4-0.

Correspondence

None

Public Comment

Everyone welcomed Ann Kirkpatrick to the meeting. Ann will be the new Superintendent and Principal for the Chebeague Island School beginning July 1. Ann said she is happy to be here and is looking forward to working on Chebeague Island.

Lisa Tucker said that she is the current Chairperson of the Chebeague Parents Association, and she asked the School Committee if changing the CPA to a more school-based Parent/Teacher Association (or Parent/Teacher Organization) type of group might be good for the school and island. A short discussion ensued, and Lisa said she will look into this idea more from her end.

Reports

School Committee Chairperson: Chairperson Jeff Putnam was not present, but he gave some notes to Mike Pulsifer, and Mike shared with the School Committee that Jeff and Mike had met with Marjorie Stratton and also later with Beau Beaupre to look at creating additional paved parking at the school. A small sketch was shared of three possible parking/paved areas, and the two areas marked on the sides of the school were met with positive responses from the SC and guests. Marjorie Stratton informed the SC that the town would be picking up the costs of hot topping over the current paved areas at the school, but she was not sure if the Board of Selectmen would cover the added parking paving or not. Mike Pulsifer said that Beau Beaupre would give the School Committee an estimate of what his work would be to prepare the new paved areas, and then Marjorie Stratton could ask the paving company what the cost would be to pave the new areas. More information will be shared at a future meeting.

Superintendent/Principal: Mike Pulsifer reported that the school Open House scheduled for Tuesday, May 28, 2019 at 6:00 pm had been publicly announced, with emails going out and notices put up, and he was hoping for a great turnout. Nancy Earnest suggested that a nice Thank You banner be posted in the school, with the names of those who donated to the renovation written on it for all to see. Mike said that cake and ice cream will be provided to attendees as well.

Mike also reported that he and incoming Superintendent Ann Kirkpatrick have scheduled some times to get together to help with the transition of Ann taking over the district, plus he has put together some information for her that will be helpful in her transition. Ann will be coming over to Chebeague Island for the budget meeting on Saturday, June 8th.

And finally, Mike shared with the School Committee an invitation to come to school on May 24th at 2:00 pm for a Daughters of the American Revolution presentation for some of our creative student writers.

Old Business

Landscape/flower Proposals: Tracy Ames and Erika Neumann were present, and they have written a Recompense mini-grant to fund some flowers for the entrance to the school, plus a larger Recompense grant to fund some plant beautification around the school. Their plan for the mini-grant is to get planters for the front area, and to have them up and filled with flowers before the Open House on May 28th. Everyone was happy to hear about the proposal. Mike Pulsifer asked if Tracy and Erika could come to a newly re-formed committee called the Building and Grounds Committee on Tuesday, May 28th at 1:00 pm to meet with the committee and share their vision for the larger Recompense grant proposal. The newly formed Building and Grounds committee was inspired due to the recent suggestions to repave parking areas, beautify outside with flowers, donate a Ga Ga pit, plus the need to review our current playground area for students. This committee will hopefully be the first step in hearing ideas and plans from community members and school staff and will then share those ideas with recommendations to the School Committee for their review. Tracy said she would be in attendance at the May 28th meeting.

School Renovation Update: A second punch list review was done, and Mike Pulsifer reported that it is complete. Ducas Construction came over to the school on May 16th and 17th and finished the times off. A few small items still to be tweaked, but Ducas' work is complete. Marjorie Stratton reported that the final construction costs are being tallied, and her estimates show that the following amounts were spent on the project:

- Total Ducas Construction contract costs \$1,719,901.71
- Total CI Town Contingency Fund costs \$ 63,862.23
- Total School Dept. Capital Fund costs \$ 39,368.00

Marjorie noted that earlier School Committee expenditures to get ready for the construction, and moving in and out costs were not included in her totals.

Mike Pulsifer shared that a bill came in for connecting and testing the generator, and that Ducas Construction agreed to pay part of the bill. The share for the School Department was \$434.44. A motion was made by Suzanne Rugh and seconded by Courtney Doughty to pay \$434.44 for the Gowen generator work from the Capital Improvement Fund. The motion passed 4-0.

New Business

Ga Ga Pit Proposal: Chris Loder was not able to attend the meeting to share his proposal. Mike Pulsifer suggested we invite Chris to the next Building and Grounds committee meeting on May 28th to share his proposal with that committee, and to wait to bring this topic back to the School Committee until after that presentation was done.

Renovation Thank You List: A list of donors (of either time, effort, materials, money) was shared, and names were offered to expand and include on the list. Suzanne Rugh suggested individual cards be sent to donors, and doing that soon would be a good idea. Nancy Earnest's idea of a Thank You banner was again discussed, and it was agreed to have the children and teachers help on this effort for Open House night.

Other Business

Warrant # 22 was reviewed by the School Committee and approval was authorized for it.

Adjournment

Suzanne Rugh motioned and Courtney Doughty seconded to adjourn the School Committee meeting at 7:01 pm. The motion passed 4-0.