

# **NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Block Island School**

**July 26, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.**

**The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, July 26, 2010, in the media center of the Block Island School.**

**Chair William Padien called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The following members were present: Annie Hall, Sean McGarry, and William Padien. Shea Butcher and Richard Tretheway were not in attendance. Robert Hicks was also present.**

## **Presentation**

**Jeff Broadhead from Washington County Regional Planning Council (WCRPC) was going to present their energy program, but he failed to show up. Mr. Hicks explained that WCRPC is seeking to access federal stimulus funds for energy saving programs for all of Washington County. The projects would be paid for out of the energy savings. Once a project is paid for the savings would go to the school department. School Committee members had several questions regarding this program and Mr. Hicks offered to contact Mr. Broadhead the following day. This item was tabled until the August meeting.**

## **Approval of Minutes**

**A motion (McGarry, Hall) to approve the minutes of the meetings held**

on May 26 and June 21, 2010, as presented carried with a vote of 3-0.

## Reports

William Padien reported that he had just given Mr. Hicks the shop drawings for the skylight, which will be faxed to Hareld Glass tomorrow in hopes of getting the job completed before school starts. He also tried to contact Joe Sprague several times today, but got no response. It is hoped that the drainage project, which will take about a week, can be completed before school starts.

Annie Hall questioned whether the reading program would be held this summer. Mr. Hicks explained that it had been advertised in-house and he thought we had it staffed, but plans had changed. No one on staff was able to work with the students this year. It was suggested that it be advertised in the Block Island Times.

Mr. Hicks submitted documentation on Block Island School's Annual Yearly Progress status, which shows that we have met all of the targets and are in full compliance of No Child Left Behind.

Mr. Hicks submitted a memorandum on Block Island School's technology assessment, which is given annually to eighth grade students statewide. All of our students demonstrated proficiency and our scaled score was well above state averages. Weaknesses were shown in the areas of spreadsheets and multimedia presentations. The technology committee has reviewed these results and is working

**on ways to better prepare our students in the weak areas.**

**Mr. Hicks provided an update of the work being done in and around the facility during the summer. Several of the rooms on the lower level are being “rearranged.” The driving force behind this was to create more space for the fitness area. The current exercise room is moving to the maintenance storage room, the maintenance storage room to the OT room, and the OT room to the exercise room. What started out as a simple room swap has turned into a much larger project because of flooring issues that needed to be addressed. The bricks are being sealed both inside and out and Mr. Hicks was happy to report that there has not been any water infiltration. The drainage issues near the playground and the skylight replacement over the music room were discussed earlier in the meeting.**

**Mr. Hicks reported that the budget includes \$5000 to switch to a “swipe card” entry system. An estimate has come in at \$8000, with the additional cost due to the large number of currently keyed entries that would have to be re-keyed or disabled. In addition, the front doors have no center bar/mullion and that makes it more difficult to install. The plan would be to change the front, kindergarten, and gym doors to the card system. The remaining doors would be disabled. Mr. Hicks will go through the budget to see if the other \$3000 can be found. He will also draft a policy regarding who would have access to the building with the new system.**

**Mr. Hicks stated that the big change in the financial report since last meeting is a special education bill of approximately \$60,000 that was received recently. It is expected that at least half of the bill can be reimbursed by Medicaid. A motion (Padien, McGarry) to approve the unaudited fiscal report through June 30, 2010, as presented carried with a vote of 3-0.**

### **Old Business**

**Due to the delay in the start of the skylight project, it can not be recognize as an expense in FY10. The funds previously allocated for the replacement (\$23,950) will have to go into the fund balance. The capital expenditures in the FY11 budget would increase by \$23,950 and the designated reserves for capital expenditures line on the revenue side would have to increase by \$23,590. A motion (Padien, Hall) to designate \$23,950 of the fund balance for the replacement of the skylight by Hareld Glass, which was approved in FY10, but not yet started, carried with a vote of 3-0.**

### **New Business**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to appoint the town's auditor to complete the district's annual audit for FY10, 11, and 12 carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, McGarry) to reappoint Marsha Gutierrez as the district's School Committee Clerk for the 2010-2011 fiscal year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, McGarry) to appoint Chris O'Neill as the district's Attendance Officer for the 2010-2011 school year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, McGarry) to reappoint the firm of Asquith & Mahoney, LLP to provide legal services to the district on an as needed basis for the 2010-2011 fiscal year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, McGarry) to reappoint the physician representative(s) of the Block Island Health Services as the school physician(s) for the 2010-2011 school year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, McGarry) to reappoint the dentist representative(s) of the Block Island Health Services as the school dentist(s) for the 2010-2011 school year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Hall, Padien) to appoint Sean McGarry as the RIASC delegate for the 2010-2011 fiscal year carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the designation of Bank of America and Washington Trust Company as official bank depositories carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the designation of the Block Island Times to advertise regularly scheduled and interim School Committee meetings carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to approve the designation of Chairperson and Secretary as authorized signatories of checks for all accounts carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Denise Rubin as the ESY speech/language pathologist carried with a vote of 3-0. Ms Rubin will be compensated at the rate of \$80 per hour.**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Jennifer Gasper as the ESY teacher assistant for a special needs student who is attending Camp Mohegan carried with a vote of 3-0. Ms Gasper will be compensated at the rate of \$20 per hour.**

**Per Policy BAK: Policy Adoption and Amendment, the School Committee is required to conduct a review of policy at least once per year. It was recommended that the committee review its policies and notify Mr. Hicks of any policies that may need to be amended and/or updated. Sean McGarry pointed out that many of the policies have not been changed since the 1980s and some still reference site based management.**

### **Calendar of Events**

**The next regular meeting of the School Committee is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 23, 2010.**

## **Adjournment**

**A motion (Padien, Hall) at 8:22 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 3-0.**

**Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk**

**Date approved: August 23, 2010**