

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Block Island School
November 15, 2010
7:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Monday, November 15, 2010, in the media center of the Block Island School. Superintendent Robert Hicks called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Elizabeth Connor, Patricia Doyle, Annie Hall, Sean McGarry, and William Padien.

Annual Meeting

William Padien was nominated for chairperson by Sean McGarry; the nomination was seconded by Annie Hall. Being no further nominations, the vote was 5-0 to approve William Padien as chairperson.

Sean McGarry was nominated for secretary by William Padien; the nomination was seconded by Annie Hall. Being no further nominations, the vote was 5-0 to approve Sean McGarry as secretary.

Policy DCD: Contacting Legal Counsel requires the appointment of one person on the School Committee to coordinate requests for assistance from the appointed legal counsel. A motion (McGarry, Hall) to appoint William Padien to coordinate requests for assistance from the appointed legal counsel carried with a vote of 5-0.

Approval of Minutes

A motion (Hall, Padien) to approve the minutes of the meetings held on October 18, October 26, and November 1, 2010, as presented carried with a vote of 3-0-2 with Elizabeth Connor and Pat Doyle abstaining.

Reports

Pat Doyle reported that she attended a very informative RIASC workshop last Saturday. Presentations were held on RTTT and understanding the code of ethics.

Mr. Padien reported that he and Mr. Hicks will be part of the town's team when negotiations begin with the Town Employees' Association.

Mr. Padien commented on not being included in the Planning Board's annual request for capital projects. He asked that Mr. Hicks send a letter to the Town Manager reminding the town that the school department would like to be included in the capital budget process.

Mr. Hicks submitted a memo regarding the Race to the Top Scope of Work, stating that he attended a training session, reviewed the Scope of Work with the faculty, worked with the southern Rhode Island superintendents to coordinate submissions, and had faculty input on the draft. The final submission was based on these steps. The superintendents have been meeting to

share support and work with each other on the development of student assessments. This has made the work easier and the continuity better.

Mr. Hicks submitted the finance report through October 31, 2010, which included a projection of expenditures through the year, some restatements to include changes made after the budget was adopted, and the capital projects intended for last year's budget, but moved to the current year at the auditor's recommendation. Sean McGarry stated he was not comfortable approving an unbalanced budget as it defies all of the accounting background he has experienced. It was suggested that the fund balance be included on the finance report to show the use of funds in relation to the fund balance. Mr. Hicks felt this was an excellent idea and will include in on future reports. A motion (Padien, Hall) to accept the fiscal report through October 31, 2010, with the stipulation that the auditor answers Sean McGarry's questions regarding revenue and expense lines carried with a vote of 5-0.

Old Business

Mr. Hicks asked the School Committee whether the intent of Policy ID: Extra-curricular/Athletic Participation was to include cultural activities as well as athletics. Committee members agreed that the policy should be applied to both groups, but if the cultural activities program needs its own policy one could be developed.

New Business

A motion (McGarry, Hall) to post Policy FBF-1: High School Proficiency Based Graduation as presented for the required 30-day period carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (McGarry, Padien) to post Policy HL: Publication of Materials as presented for the required 30-day period carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Doyle) to grant Shannon Cotter Marsella's request for a maternity leave from the end of the first semester (between the dates of January 31 and February 4) and returning at the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Robert Closter, Jr. as the part-time adaptive physical education teacher carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to consent to the appointment of Shannon Booth as the Student Council Advisor carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Hall) to consent to the appointment of Jill Seppa as the middle grades Cultural Activities Coordinator carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, McGarry) to consent to the appointment of Frank Nicastro as the head coach for the varsity boys' basketball team carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, McGarry) to consent to the appointment of Robert Closter, Jr. as the head coach for the varsity girls' basketball team carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to consent to the appointment of Colby Lasorsa as the assistant coach for the varsity girls' basketball team pending receipt of her coaching certification carried with a vote of 4-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative.

A motion (Padien, McGarry) to consent to the appointment of Paul Cunningham as the head coach for the junior high boys' basketball team carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to consent to the appointment of John Tarbox as the assistant coach for the junior high boys' basketball team carried with a vote of 5-0.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to consent to the appointment of Colby Lasorsa as the head coach for the junior high girls' basketball team pending receipt of her coaching certification carried with a vote of 4-1 with Sean McGarry voting in the negative.

A motion (Padien, Connor) to approve the request for tuition reimbursement for Martha Velie-Gass to take the necessary coursework to earn special education severe/profound certification was withdrawn after a discussion regarding where the funding would come from. A motion (McGarry, Doyle) to approve the reimbursement for four courses Martha Velie-Gass will be taking to directly benefit our special education program with 50 percent coming from the tuition reimbursement and additional costs to be taken out of the IDEA grant carried with a vote of 5-0. Mr. Hicks noted that the total cost for all of the courses is \$1800 and will greatly increase our programming capabilities.

Calendar of Events

A calendar of events for the months of November and December was submitted for School Committee information. The next regular meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, December 13, 2010.

Correspondence

Various pieces of correspondence were forwarded for School Committee information.

Adjournment

A motion (Padien, Hall) at 8:45 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 5-0.

Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk

Date approved: 12/13/2010