

Unofficial Minutes
SAU6 Study Committee
08/25/2015

Meeting called to order by Heidi Jaarsma at 7:08PM.

Attendees: Heidi Jaarsma, Nicole Saginor, William Palmer, Peter Lynch

Absent: Glenn Thornton, Holly Taft, Middleton McGoodwin, Sandra Carlson

Revisions to minutes from 6/22/15:

Paragraph 7 line 2 should read a two district SAU, in lieu of merger.

Paragraph 13 should include a line stating, Level of service Cornish receives for the money from SAU6.

Page 3 Paragraph 10 should be deleted.

Page 4 Paragraph 3 should be Windsor SE Supervisory Union, not just Windsor.

William Palmer moved the minutes be approved as revised, Nicole Saginor seconded. The Motion passed.

Heidi Jaarsma presented a report crafted by Sandra Carlson regarding the possibilities of Cornish and New England Classical Academy joining together to create a new school. (See report at CornishNH.net)

Heidi Jaarsma opened the topic for discussion by the committee.

Nicole Saginor commented that a Charter School could provide their own Supervisory services, and could be anything they wanted to be, she was not in favor of exploring that option at this time.

William Palmer suggested that this type of option might be something the town could pursue if all other options failed to pan out.

Heidi Jaarsma stated she did not want to dedicate committee time and energy to this proposal, and further stated, she did not want to raise hope on their part.

Heidi Jaarsma opened the topic up for Public comment.

Carolyn Storrs stated that the School Board was going to ask for options the public might have concerning the future of the school and indicated that this might be a good forum to discuss this proposal.

Heidi Jaarsma thought that that kind of public forum might also provide a good opportunity for the committee to outline where we are in our process.

Heidi Jaarsma moved on to the Subcommittee meeting with Plainfield's officials.

She commented that the meeting went well and indicated that it appears that both sides are investigating this process with eyes open.

Discussions outline some of the differences that will require thoughtfulness.

- Plainfield going from one school district to two would be very different.
- One budget to perhaps three budgets
- Analysis of the apportionment process and what this would mean to bottom line budgets

Heidi Jaarsma pointed out that a budget subcommittee was formed to create 2 proposed budgets that would allow us to better see the bottom line.

Heidi Jaarsma and Nicole Saginor will man this committee, with Bill Palmer wishing to observe the process.

Nicole Saginor indicated that the Plainfield Business Manager has given a great deal of thought to economies of scale, and thinks the two schools will benefit from not only savings but potentially the addition of services that both schools have cut or don't currently have.

The Subcommittee will meet Sept. 14th.

All agreed that the Plainfield administration are very positive, and feel the process has advantages for both schools.

Heidi Jaarsma shared she believed the addition of technology in the classroom would be a plus.

William Palmer pointed out that the sharing of some teaching positions could create full time FTE'S that would allow us to attract and keep quality teachers.

Heidi Jaarsma moved on to discuss our current interactions with SAU6.

The final budget report for last year is not yet available. Outstanding Payables and problems with the Purchase Order system have created a delay.

She shared that Mike O’Niell is putting in a new P.O. system and wants the reports to be right before releasing them.

Nicole Saginor asked if it was possible to find out when the close of the year date is.

Heidi Jaarsma presented a report on Software Licenses and costs. (can be found at CornishNH.net)

This is an effort in identifying what we need and what it costs.

Future agenda:

Heidi Jaarsma will make a presentation to the School Board outlining where we are in our process.

It was suggested we look at the Madison, Tamworth, Freedom SAU budget which may be similar to what we might encounter.

Nicole Saginor will Call Monroe NH School, investigating similarities to Cornish.

Motion to adjourn at 8:08PM made by Nicole Saginor and seconded by William Palmer. Motion Passed.

Next Meeting- Sept 28th

Respectfully submitted by,

Peter Lynch, Secretary