

## ***Unofficial Minutes***

### ***SAU Study Committee Meeting November 18, 2014***

***Attendees:*** Heidi Jaarsma, Troy Simino, Bill Palmer, Sandra Carlson, Nicole Saginor, Pete Lynch

***Absent:*** Middleton McGoodwin, Holly Taft

Meeting was called to order by Heidi Jaarsma at 7:04 PM

The following corrections were made to the minutes of the October 14<sup>th</sup> meeting:

Public comment was made by Samantha Green, her last name was not known when the minutes were written.

The website for the town is CornishNH.net, not .gov.

Troy Siminos' response to the sense of the committee regarding the advisability of starting our own SAU given the information we had will be changed from "No" to "Not at this time"

Heidi Jaarsma asked that the committee goals passed in the meeting, by written precisely in the minutes. The minutes will read:

***The SAU Planning Committee, in meeting the requirements of RSA 194-C:2, will***

***\*keep the best interests of Cornish Students first and foremost in our decision making process;***

***\*make decisions which seek the long term sustainability of our local school; and,***

***\*recognize the fiscal impact of our decisions on the town of Cornish and its residents.***

Motion to accept the minutes as corrected was made by Troy Simino, seconded by Bill Palmer, and passed.

Motion to accept Meeting agenda was made by Bill Palmer, seconded by Troy Simino, and passed.

#### ***Report and Discussion of reorganization request;***

Heidi Jaarsma presented a report outlining our investigation into reorganizing with another small SAU.

As agreed upon in the previous meeting, Heidi contacted Lyme, Sunapee, Grantham and Plainfield by letter asking if there might be any interest in joining together as a SAU. All recipients, except for Plainfield declined.

Dr. Vogt, the Plainfield's' Superintendent responded that he and the School Board discussed our letter, and are open to reorganizing their SAU to include the Cornish School district, and requested more information before providing the educational and fiscal implications of such a merger.

*(A detailed account of letters sent and Ms. Jaarsma's report may be found on the town website. CornishNH.net)*

In particular, they requested clarification as to what we wanted regarding points A-R in RSA 194-C:2.

At this point Heidi Jaarsma suggested we revisit the presentation of the RSA 194-C:2, that she and Nicole Saginor created, for the September 8, 2014 meeting, *(may be found on the town website: CornishNH.net)* so we could create a response for Plainfield group.

A broad discussion followed detailing what we needed from Plainfield and what roles might be provided in house. It was generally agreed that we would need a Superintendent to both assume the duties exclusive to the Superintendent role, and oversee the individuals charged to carry out other requirements outlined in the RSA. We would also need the services of a Business Manager, and perhaps a Director of Special Education. Other roles such as Technology and Curriculum Coordinator might be accommodated within the Cornish School.

Articles a, e, h, i, n and perhaps p were identified as responsibilities that were SAU exclusive.

Articles b, c, d, f, g, j, k, l, o, q, and r, were identified as subject to discussion with Plainfield.

Heidi Jaarsma will call Dr. Vogt to set up a meeting between Cornish and Plainfield groups. She will put to paper, what we discussed regarding the RSA a-r requirements.

***Timeline:***

Heidi Jaarsma suggested that, given where we are in our process and the timelines invoked by the RSA, we would not be able to complete our charge by March 2015, when the committee is dissolved.

She contacted legal counsel and was advised there are two options; state that we do not have time to complete our task and recommend no withdrawal; or, give a report of our findings to date and draft a warrant article suggesting the formation of a new committee to move forward with the process.

The committee embraced the idea of creating a new warrant article so we might continue the process.

Motion to adjourn at 8:25 PM by Troy Simino, seconded by Bill Palmer. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Pete Lynch, Secretary