

Approved minutes
SAU6 Study Committee

April 27, 2015

Present: Heidi Jaarsma, Holly Taft, Sandra Carlson, Bill Palmer, Glenn Thornton, Nicole Saginor, Pete Lynch

Meeting called to order at 4:32PM by Holly Taft

Election of officers:

Bill Palmer nominated Heidi Jaarsma for Chairman, seconded by Pete Lynch

Holly Taft nominated Bill Palmer for vice Chair, seconded by Sandra Carlson

Holly Taft nominated Peter Lynch for Secretary, seconded by Glenn Thornton

All nominations passed unanimously.

Committee Goals:

Heidi Jaarsma reviewed the goals set by the past years committee.

Bill Palmer moved that we adopt the goals for the new committee, seconded by Glenn Thornton. Motion passed. (Goals can be viewed on CornishNH.net)

The committee reviewed the warrant guiding the committee passed at the March Meeting and also visited the Warrant Article passed by Plainfield addressing the potential merging of the two school systems, either by Cornish purchasing services from SAU 32, or joining the SAU.

The committee looked at a rough estimate of how the Apportionment Formula might look. Approximately 63% Plainfield-37% Cornish.

The committee discussed how we might share costs, and economies of scale.

Nicole Saginor suggested that if we were to purchase services we might want to consult legal counsel.

Heidi Jaarsma suggested we meet with Plainfield and the SAU 6 business manager, so that we might more precisely understand what costs might be associated with leaving SAU6.

The committee agreed we needed to look at all of the incidental costs we might incur, if we were to join Plainfield.

Caroline Storrs encouraged the committee to break out what costs are SAU costs and what costs are Cornish costs.

Future Agenda:

Heidi Jaarsma suggested we meet the fourth Monday of each month at 7:00.

The committee must commit to exploring every financial possibility, and determining how it may impact the decisions going forward.

George Edson commented that he was uncomfortable with the committee goal concerning “the long term sustainability of the Cornish School”.

He then asked, “if we buy services from Plainfield, are we hanging out by ourselves?; Would they be able to dictate pricing?”

Mellissa Drye stated that at face value, it appeared the SAU6 costs were much more expensive than what our costs with Plainfield might be.

Caroline Storrs stated if we merged with Plainfield, purchases such as PowerSchool might benefit Plainfield as well.

Glenn Thornton expressed concern, wondering if we would have an equal voice in education decisions.

Heidi Jaarsma stated that governance would be discussed after the costs were investigated.

Heidi Jaarsma offered to contact the SAU 6 business manager to schedule a meeting, and also contact Plainfield to arrange a meeting discussing moving forward.

Glenn Thornton moved we adjourn the meeting at 5:08 PM, seconded by Bill Palmer. Motion Passed