

Alexa Garvey, Acting Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Administration Building Meeting Room. Members present were Deborah Downie, Candace Anderson, Craig Esposito, and Jack Morehouse. Late Arrival: Alisa Morrison - 7:04 pm

Also, present were Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, Greg Smolley, DRA representative, and interested citizens.

Approval of Playground Equipment for Deans Mill and West Vine Street Schools - Greg Smolley, DRA representative gave a brief overview of the playground drawings and specification manual that was on the agenda for approval that would then move on to the State for final approval. Mr. Smolley shared drawings of the new playgrounds, explaining there will be two playground areas, which will be age appropriate, and code and ADA compliant. He also had a sample of the rubberized surfacing that will be installed on the playgrounds. Board member Jack Morehouse asked what type of affect would that have on the surface as far as smell. Mr. Smolley explained it will off-gas and it is handicap wheelchair accessible. The estimated cost for each playground including playground equipment and rubberized surface for West Vine Street School is \$310,000 and for Deans Mill School is \$330,000. There will also add various painted games to the asphalt such as, basketball, hopscotch, four square, obstacle course, and racetrack. Board member Candace Anderson asked how long will it take for State approval? Mr. Smolley answered, estimated four to five weeks and project completion is estimated to be around November.

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Candace Anderson:

Motion 1: Move to approve Final Plans and Project Manual dated July 24, 2018 and quotes dated July 24, 2018 based on CT DAS State Contract pricing, for playground equipment for the Deans Mill Elementary School, State Project 137-0047.

All: Aye

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Deborah Downie:

Motion 2: Move to approve Final Plans and Project Manual dated July 24, 2018 and quotes dated July 24, 2018 based on CT DAS State Contract pricing, for playground equipment for the West Vine Street Elementary School, State Project 137-0048.

All: Aye

Selection of Board Member to Fill Vacant Board Seat – Alexa Garvey, Acting Chair reported there was only one applicant of interest, Farouk Rajab, who sent in his letter of interest for the vacant seat. Mrs. Garvey introduced Mr. Farouk Rajab and shared his letter with the rest of the Board members. She explained that Mr. Farouk Rajab comes with a great deal of financial background, is active in the community, and has also chaired different boards in the community. Candace Anderson added he has a student currently in Stonington Public Schools.

Mr. Rajab shared information about himself, why he chose to reside in Stonington, and why he applied for the vacancy. He thanked the members for the opportunity to serve on the Board.

The following motion was made by Jack Morehouse and seconded by Candace Anderson:

Motion 3: To have Farouk Rajab fill the vacancy of Frank Todisco's seat on the Board of Education until completion of the term.

All: Aye

Executive Session – Superintendent's Evaluation

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Deborah Downie:

Motion 4: To enter into Executive Session.

All: Aye

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:26 p.m.

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Deborah Downie:

Motion 5: To exit into Executive Session.

All: Aye

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:56 p.m.

Approval of Superintendent's Evaluation and Employment Contract

The following motion was made by Candace Anderson and seconded by Craig Esposito:

Motion 6: To approve the Superintendent's evaluation summary as articulated in the Board statement and approve a one-year employment contract extension, which includes a 2.0% salary increase effective July 1, 2018.

All: Aye

Board Retreat

The Board discussed dates and location for the Board retreat. The Board agreed on Monday, August 27 at 6pm location to be determined. Acting Chair Alexa Garvey, asked the Board members to email her items for discussion. Alisa Morrison asked if there would be a facilitator. The Board agreed to not have one at this time but instead revisit the idea for mid-year. The Board shared ideas of items that would be appropriate for discussion at the retreat. Dr. Riley gave examples such as goals, needs, direction for 18-19 and facility needs at the middle schools.

Board Comments/Concerns

Deborah Downie commented she ask been asked by community members regarding where the new middle school mascot of the stingray came from. Dr. Riley explained a survey was sent out to students, family, and staff and the committee also took park in the decision. Mrs. Garvey added there is a video explaining why it was chosen on the middle school consolidation link on our website and Mr. Smith has more background information on this topic if needed.

Adjournment

The following motion was made by Alisa Morrison and seconded by Candace Anderson:

Motion 7: To adjourn at 8:14 p.m.

All: Aye


Alexa Garvey, Board Secretary