

GROTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
TOWN & CITY COUNCILS/RTM/ BOARD OF EDUCATION LIAISON COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 2, 2019 @ 5:30 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE, ROOM 11

Central Office - Susan Austin

BOE - Kim Shepardson Watson, Lee White, Rosemary Robertson

Town Council - Rachel Franco

City Council - Absent

RTM - Kathy Chase, Mike Whitney, Portia Bordelon

1. Call to Order – Kim Shepardson Watson called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
2. Review 9/4/19 Meeting Minutes – motion to approve the minutes was made by Chaser and seconded by Franco
3. Board of Education Report
 - A middle school transition team has been formed
 - Joe Courtney visited Charles Barnum and Catherine Kolnaski Schools to observe the Farm-to-School program
 - As part of the Farm-to-School program, Groton Public Schools will host a community meal on October 10 at Fitch High School beginning at 5:30 p.m. A robocall will be sent to families regarding the meal
 - The new principal at Fitch High School is no longer splitting his time between Groton and his previous position
 - The author of *Hey, Kiddo*, presented to students at Fitch High School
 - The Board has begun its work on their strategic plan
 - The Martin Luther King Scholarship dinner will be held on October 17 @ 5:30 p.m. at the Mystic Marriott

The committee had the following questions/concerns for the Board of Education:

- How is the Board condensing personnel for the new middle school?
- They had a question concerning the administration and teams and schedule
- Communicate to families
- Concern about larger class sizes at middle school
- List of who is on the transition team
- Plan for athletics when we are under construction at middle school sites; include park & recs
- They discussed perhaps having a time capsule the new middle school
- Does the Board of Education have a plan in place for before and after school activities if EEE continues to be concern?
- The field/facilities are outdated
- The field house is not fair to the girls

4. Town Council Report
 - One hundred and twenty people are interested in a plastic reduction forum
 - The Council would like to know how Board of Education grants get approved by the RTM
 - The school closure policy was passed
 - The Lt. Governor selected Groton for a Korean War commemoration; details are being work out
 - Coastal access points in Mystic; working on signs for a coastal trail but need proof that access is legal
5. City Council Report – City Council representatives were absent – no report was given
6. RTM Report
 - There seems to be some confusion around recycling – what happens to the trash/recycling?
Could the schools compost?
 - A question was raised regarding what will happen to school properties
 - A question was raised as to how the RTM handles Board of Education grants
7. New Business – no new business was discussed
8. Adjournment – meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.