



Mt. Greylock Regional School District

School Committee Open Session Minutes

Date: October 8th, 2020

Start: 6:01 PM

Adjourn: 9:07 PM

Location:

Meeting Room A109

NO Public Attendance Permitted*

*Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A sec. 20, the public will not be allowed to physically access this School Committee meeting.

In Attendance:

Committee Members:	Also Present:
C. Conry, Chair J. Art A. Carter C. Greene S. Miller A. Terranova <u>Absent:</u>	Dr. Putnam, Superintendent Joe Bergeron, Business Administrator

Item	Comments	Motion	Second	Vote
I. Call to Order	Meeting called to order by C. Conry at 6:01 PM			
II. Mission	MISSION: At Mount Greylock Regional School District, our mission is to create a community of learners working together in a safe and challenging learning environment that encourages restorative based processes, respect, inclusive diversity, courtesy, integrity and responsibility through high expectations and cooperation resulting in life-long learning and personal growth.			
III. Public Comment	1. Julia Bowen of Williamstown gave her comment over the phone on agenda item VI. A. (DEI). Julia invited the community to a DEI Convening, which will take place Tuesday, October 13th, from 4:30 to 6:00 PM via Zoom. 2. Stephanie Boyd of Williamstown gave her written comment on agenda item IX to express her dismay of the process of the turf field deliberation of the School Committee.			



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	<p>3. Hugh Daley of Williamstown gave his written comment on agenda item IX, urging the School Committee to be deliberate and prudent in their decision-making regarding the turf field, a project he believes should be held off at this time.</p>			
<p>IV. Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>Submitted in the meeting packet for review and approval by the School Committee are meeting minutes from September 10, 15, and 24, 2020.</p>			
	<p>MOTION to approve meeting minutes from September 10, 2020 by S. Miller, seconded by A. Terranova</p> <p>S. Miller added a comment to section VIII of the minutes, updated in previous minutes.</p>	<p>Miller</p>	<p>Terranova</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>
	<p>MOTION to approve meeting minutes from September 15, 2020 by S. Miller, seconded by A. Carter</p> <p>S. Miller wanted to add a comment about the state metrics, updated in previous minutes.</p>	<p>Miller</p>	<p>Carter</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>
<p>MOTION to approve meeting minutes from September 24, 2020 by S. Miller, seconded by A. Carter</p> <p>S. Miller pointed out a minor error, which when amended would remove the word “raising” at the top of page four of the minutes.</p>	<p>Miller</p>	<p>Carter</p>	<p>6-0-0</p>	
<p>V. Chair Updates</p>	<p>A. School Committee member letter of resignation - C. Conry read Regina DiLego’s Letter of Resignation to the MGRSD School Committee, which is effective immediately. C. Conry wanted to personally thank Regina for her continued hard work. S. Miller seconded the sentiment.</p> <p>C. Conry read the District statement regarding this mid-term vacancy on the School Committee for next steps. A contact at DESE was unfamiliar with the timing for this resignation and referred the District to the State. The State responded that any resignations after April would lead to an appointment that would last until the next biennial election, which means this appointment would be for two years until November of 2022. The school committee and two town selectboards are beginning the process to fill the seat.</p>			



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	<p>The committee spoke about getting the word out on the vacant position, the application of which is posted on the School Committee section of the website.</p>			
	<p>B. Anti-Racism Resolution: Discussion (VOTE) - C. Greene read the Anti-Racism Resolution to the committee and public. It will be voted at the delegate assembly in November. A. Carter would have liked a statement about developing programs specifically for students, not just staff.</p> <p>MOTION to support the MGRSD School Committee Anti-Racism Resolution by A. Carter, seconded by J. Art</p>	Carter	Art	6-0-0
<p>VI. Superintendent Updates</p>	<p>A. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Internal and Community Related - Dr. Putnam informed the committee about Dr. McCandless, who is already taking the initiative for leading the District. He is studying up on our issues, including DEI, so that he will be prepared to take over as Superintendent next month.</p>			
	<p>B. 2020-2021 School Update - There will be an October 22nd meeting that is focused entirely on education and our reopening updates. Dr. Putnam gave reports on the challenges the District is continuing to face, but that the students are engaged in learning. He gave brief updates on all three schools that included safety, education, and special education. He also gave some updates regarding the Remote Academy. Several committee members shared personal and positive updates regarding the reopening for their children. A. Carter and J. Bergeron gave personal updates about their childrens’ return to school. S. Miller gave concerns about the numbers and the metrics that the District is using, which will be addressed in the Education Subcommittee.</p>			
<p>VII. Subcommittee / Liaison Reports</p>	<p>A. Policy -</p> <p>1. Discussion of Agenda Format (BEDB) Policy and Practice (VOTE) - C. Greene addressed an amendment that would change the three day Agenda and supporting materials posting deadline to change to 48 hours before the meeting. S. Miller said that having more time to read materials is always welcomed. J. Art made a point of getting materials to the public as well. Dr. Putnam warned that with too much public involvement before the</p>	Greene	Miller	6-0-0



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	<p>meeting, social media becomes a forum of discussion before the School Committee has a chance to do their deliberation. He suggested being very descriptive in the agenda for the public as opposed to sharing all materials. C. Greene said that it would be best to address these issues during talks of the committee's review of protocols and procedures.</p> <p>MOTION to revise the Agenda Format (BEDB) by C. Greene, seconded by S. Miller</p>			
	<p>B. Finance - J. Art and the finance committee reviewed warrants and discussed Agenda item VIII A, the Multipurpose Building project.</p>			
	<p>C. Education - S. Miller reminded the community that the next Education Subcommittee meeting is Tuesday, October 13 at 3:30 PM via Zoom. Miller wondered if members from the Mt. Greylock student council was going to participate in meetings, and whether the elementary school should have participants as well. C. Conry said that yes, at least Mt. Greylock students will be included in the future.</p>			
<p>VIII. Business Administrator Updates</p>	<p>A. Multipurpose Building project update + final change order (VOTE) - Change Order IV was presented to the committee. Concrete curbs will be used, insulation has plywood covering, exterior door hold opens, and lastly surge protection devices were changes made.</p> <p>MOTION to approve Change Order IV by C. Greene, seconded by J. Art</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Greene</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6-0-0</p>
	<p>B. Review and approval of Capital Gift related Perkins Eastman invoices (VOTE) - J. Bergeron reviewed the invoices listed below. S. Miller reiterated that the gift should be used for student needs, not for administrative purposes, such as the new building or trailer rental.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Art</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Greene</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">6-0-0</p>



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	<p>MOTION to approve payment out of the Williams College Capital Gift to Mt. Greylock of invoices numbers 15 (October 14th, 2019), 20, 22, 23, and 26 (September 8th, 2020) to Perkins Eastman, totalling \$75,963.80 by J. Art, seconded by C. Greene</p>			
	<p>C. FY21 Update - J. Bergeron noted that we are still waiting for several final numbers to determine the budget. There are at least two weeks to close out the fiscal year, but an extension on closing will be most-likely be submitted by Mr. Bergeron. It is unclear if October 1st is still the deadline from the state.</p>			
<p>IX. Phase II / Field Project Discussion and Next Steps</p>	<p>C. Greene presented her list of pros and cons to a vote on moving forward. Her pros included current committee members voting for the project they were involved with, to stay on track for the April 2022 Title IX and ADA compliance deadline, and to provide a potential year-round field for the community and school, especially during COVID. Cons included a number of community members who don't feel their concerns were adequately addressed, no other promised public forum, and that documentation isn't available in a concise and cohesive manner. C. Conry mentioned she would like all information packaged with all information in one place. A. Carter thought reasons to vote were more compelling, citing that the current field is not playable and out of ADA compliance. J. Art was not comfortable pushing back the compliance issue, but was wondering if the vote would have a cost attached. A. Terranova said that every delay means a group in the community is not being serviced and gave a timeline of discussions and meetings leading up to today. He noted that most everything that was asked of the committee was completed. C. Greene mentioned that if this went forward, the district and towns could put money aside ahead of time for the 10-year replacement costs. S. Miller reiterated that the monetary gift from Williams wasn't meant to relieve taxpayers of the two towns but was given as a gift for the needs of the students, and should help them more so than projects such as the new Administrative Building or the temporary Administrative trailer. J. Art articulated that because of COVID, reopening schools, and many district administrative changes, it's understandable that this topic may have seemed pushed aside. The committee took time to have a lengthy discussion on what a vote on the issue should look like, potentially happening at the October 16 meeting. The committee suggested holding a vote at the October 16 meeting in regards to a potential bid for the field. S. Miller offered his assistance with gathering comments and materials, as well as contacting the Phase II committee. *per 11.23.20 meeting C. Greene requests this be noted as S. Miller's opinion vs. fact.</p>			
<p>X. Upcoming Meetings / Events</p>	<p>A. Education Subcommittee Meeting (remote via Zoom) 10/13/20 - Meeting will occur at 3:30 PM via Zoom.</p>			



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	B. School Committee Meeting (remote via Zoom) 10/22/20 - Meeting will occur at 6:00 PM via Zoom.			
	Athletic Field Update Meeting on (remote via Zoom) 10/16/20 - Meeting will occur at 12:00 PM via Zoom.			
XI. Other Business not anticipated by the Chair within 48 hours of meeting	No business to discuss.			
XII. Motion to Adjourn	MOTION to adjourn by A. Terranova, seconded by J. Art The committee adjourned at 9:07 PM.	Terranova	Art	6-0-0

Respectfully Submitted,
 Eli Phillips
 Mount Greylock Minutes Recorder

Approved 11.23.20 with edit