

SCRANTON, PENNSYLVANIA 18503

The Scranton School Board of Directors held a Special Meeting on Monday, January 13, 2014 at 6:00pm prevailing time for the purpose of filling the vacant seat on the Scranton School Board, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 425 N. Washington Ave., Scranton, PA 18503.

President McGuigan called the meeting to order at 6:09pm with a Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call: By the Secretary

Present: Directors Casey, Donahue, Douaihy, McAndrew, Oleski, Ruane, Sheridan and President McGuigan.

Absent: All present.

VISITING DELEGATIONS:

Mr. Bob Bolus spoke on behalf of the taxpayers and asked the board to put politics and nepotism to the side, be objective and come together and do what is right with regards to appointing the vacant seat.

At this time the applicants who applied for the vacant seat left by Mr. Jason Shrive were given the opportunity to be interviewed and to address the board.

The candidates were welcome to stay in the board room or they could wait for their turn in the conference room.

The following individuals addressed the board and were asked questions regarding their thoughts on what they felt was the most important issues facing our district, how they felt about the interview/appointing process, why they feel they are the best qualified, positive aspects they may bring to the board, their opinion of the board's role in hiring staff and what the board would be missing if they were not chosen for the appointment:

Micah Friedman
Chris Guidos
Ron Stiltenspole
David Jordan
Armand Martinelli
Joe Matyevich
Doug Miller
Tom Schuster
Tom Borthwick
Sarene O'Malley

At this time, 7:58pm a motion to recess for approximately five (5) minutes was made by Director Donahue, seconded by Director Casey and the meeting readjoined at 8:04pm.

After the recess another roll call was taken:

Present: Directors Casey, Donahue, Douaihy, McAndrew, Oleski, Ruane, Sheridan and McGuigan.

Absent: All Present.

A motion to accept meeting minutes of November 21, 2013 and November 25, 2013 was made by Director Douaihy, seconded by Director Ruane and passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

At this time Director Douaihy made a motion to nominate Mr. Armand Martinelli to fill the board vacancy. Director Sheridan seconded the motion.

ON THE QUESTION:

Director Donahue asked that the motion to appoint this evening be tabled and in an effort to avoid the politics involved that the appointment be decided in court.

The motion to table was seconded by Director McAndrew.

The motion to table failed with three (3) affirmative and five (5) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Casey, Douaihy, Oleski, Ruane and Sheridan. The affirmative votes were cast by Directors Donahue, McAndrew and President McGuigan.

President McGuigan asked if there were any more nominations.

Director Donahue made a motion to nominate Mr. Thomas Schuster. Director McAndrew seconded.

President McGuigan asked for roll call for the first nomination of Mr. Armand Martinelli.

The motion to appoint Mr. Armand Martinelli to fill the board vacancy passed with five (5) affirmative and three (3) negative votes. The negative votes were cast by Directors Donahue, McAndrew and President McGuigan.

Director McAndrew expressed his thoughts regarding the process of filling the board vacancy and why he feels the process is not fair.

Directors Casey, Douaihy, McAndrew, Oleski and Sheridan thanked candidates for coming this evening, also expressed their thoughts regarding the process, the appointment of Mr. Martinelli's and his background and leadership, the candidates qualifications and experience and also public discussion so there is no question of any decisions in executive session.

Director Donahue apologized to the candidates present this evening because he feels they were subjected to a "dog and pony show" and believes the decision was made by the members that voted for Mr. Martinelli before we sat here this evening and this has nothing to do with Mr. Martinelli, he does not know him personally, he has heard Mr. Martinelli is a top class gentleman but his only issue is that Mr. Martinelli previously was appointed to fill a vacancy and he had the chance to run for

re election, he chose not to and he thinks what happened tonight was a slap in the face to the voters of the City of Scranton and again it has nothing to do with Mr. Martinelli personally.

Director Sheridan responded that he resented what Director Donahue just said about this board having this decision made before tonight. Director Sheridan looked at the qualifications and experience of a prior board member.

President McGuigan agreed with Director Donahue and believes a policy needs to be implemented on how a board vacancy should be filled. She echoed Mr. Donahue that it has nothing to do with Mr. Martinelli but also believes the decision was preordained.

President McGuigan now asked Solicitor Minora to please swear in Mr. Martinelli as our new board member.

There being no further business a motion to adjourn was made by Director Douaihy, seconded by Director Sheridan and the meeting adjourned at 8:13pm.

By: _____
Secretary