

**Monadnock Regional School District  
Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 13, 2021  
SAU Conference Room/Zoom, Swanzey, NH**

**Members Present:** Cheryl McDaniel-Thomas, Dan LeClair, Scott Peters via Zoom and Betty Tatro.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
  
2. **Approval of Minutes: MOTION:** D. LeClair **MOVED** to approve the May 18, 2021 CRC Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** B. Tatro-abstain, D. LeClair-yes and C. McDaniel-Thomas-yes. **Motion passes. MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the June 15, 2021 CRC Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** B. Tatro-yes, C. McDaniel-Thomas-yes and D. LeClair-abstain. **Motion passes. MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to approve the August 17, 2021 CRC Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** D. LeClair. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**
  
3. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Review Timeline for Committee Work:** C. McDaniel-Thomas explained the review of the timeline did not happen yet.
  
  - b. **Newsletter submission:** C. McDaniel-Thomas explained there is a need for a blurb for the town newsletters. She asked about the upcoming Listening Session dates, times and if K. Barker would be able to attend. She also asked who is the contact for K. Barker. She said the deadline for the blurb for the newsletter is the 15th. S. Peters said we will not know which school, which date but the language on the announcement should let people know we are holding the Listening Sessions in late October. He hopes that K. Barker can be there. We have not talked to L. Sutton about the availability of the buildings. C. McDaniel-Thomas asked if there is a dedicated link to the renovations. S. Peters said there is an old link. That would be something the PR Firm should take care of. C. McDaniel-Thomas is not sure the point person with the PR Firm, possibly L. Witte. S. Peters said L. Witte is out of the office this week. If we can clear the air on that we could be working with them.
  
  - c. **Update of Board Meeting CRC Discussion:**

**d. What are our talking points for Listening Tours?** S. Peters said we do not have talking points, there is no new information. He suggested the committee come up with talking points at the next meeting.

**e. What do we want from Facility and Finance and when do we want it?**

**f. Progress on slide show to loop at school events:** S. Peters said he would do the slide deck but it is not done. S. Peters said he is not sure about the slide deck without any words. It is tough to put it on a loop for school events. We need to ask the PR Firm to help produce. S. Peters said this will take time. The PR Firm will need to talk to multiple people to gather information. He suggested inviting the PR Firm to the CRC Meeting to discuss some of these details.

**g. Review website progress:** S. Peters commented the website does not need to be prepared for the Listening Sessions, that process can come after.

**h. Needed prep for Listening Sessions?** S. Peters sent a checklist in preparation for the Listening Sessions. We need to invite L. Sutton to our meetings, we need to review the slide deck and discuss the talking points.

#### **4. New Business:**

**a. Hand out announcements for upcoming Listening Sessions:** It was suggested to put a handout in the students backpacks to let the parents know about the Listening Sessions. S. Peters is not keen on the title Listening Sessions. We want local families to dialogue with us. The committee threw around a number of titles but nothing firm as of yet.

**b. Letter for Select Boards:** It was asked if the committee should schedule the Listening Sessions with the Select boards separate from the public C. McDaniel-Thomas suggested writing a letter and asking them if they would like to attend separately. S. Peters would like to have the Select boards and the Budget Committee attend the Listening Sessions. C. McDaniel-Thomas suggested an outreach letter. S. Peters suggested a generic letter to the Select boards and the towns and delivered to the Town Halls. Mail the letter to the Chair of the Budget Committee.

C. McDaniel-Thomas shared the checklist prepared by S. Peters with the committee. He broke it down into categories. They will contact L. Sutton to make sure the buildings are available. They would like to go over what people need to say. Plan out who will speak first, second and third. S. Peters and K. Barker will discuss the CIP. He suggested an

RSVP for the people who are planning on attending. C. McDaniel-Thomas does not agree. People may feel that they cannot attend if they do not RSVP. It was suggested to get an invitation out by media. Also do a home mailing which needs to be prepared by October 1, 2021 or maybe sooner. S. Peters suggested "save the date" postcard. He said if we do not do the RSVP we have to be prepared for a group of 10-100. The list has a section for greeters due to COVID possible social distancing and other modifications. It was suggested to ask Silver Direct to print 100 more handouts or create something new. We need to work pretty fast. S. Peters said K. Barker has finished the work at the schools and now we have work to do to pull together something but we will have new information. D. LeClair suggested the numbers on the pamphlet be updated in order to save time. C. McDaniel-Thomas would suggest the pamphlet have the word "**Updated**" on it. It sounds like the additional information from Finance/Facilities may not be ready soon enough to update the information and to have Silver Direct have time to prepare the pamphlets. D. LeClair suggested asking Silver Direct about the turnaround time. C. McDaniel-Thomas will contact Silver Direct tomorrow. S. Peters would suggest taking what we hear in the Listening Sessions and bring it to K. Barker and keep it with us. S. Peters and B. Tatro did Listening Sessions on a separate issue and used sticky notes and then every comment fell into a bucket. We will do this for each school. L. Sutton has done other events and she will know what to do. The committee would like to invite L. Sutton to a meeting to go over the list. She has a copy of the spreadsheet. We need to contact the PR Firm and add custodial services to the list.

**5. Setting the next meeting's date, time and agenda:** September 21, 2021, 5:00 PM.

**6. Public Comments:** There are no public comments.

**7. Adjourn: MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 5:45 PM.  
**SECOND:** D. LeClair **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Laura L. Aivaliotis**  
**Recording Secretary**