

**Monadnock Regional School District  
Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes  
August 17, 2021  
MRMHS Library and via Zoom, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Also Present:** L. Aivaliotis, MRSD Recording Secretary

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
2. **Approval of Minutes:** The committee will vote on the May 18, 2021 Minutes and the June 15, 2021 Minutes at the next meeting.
3. **Adjust Agenda:** The committee would like to ask L. Sutton to prepare CRC Meeting Packets regarding the timeline and other information.
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Review Timeline for Committee Work:**
  - b. **Plan Listening Tours Location and Date:** The committee would like to start discussing the Listening Sessions which are to be scheduled for mid Sept. until the end of October. The committee will have to have numbers from K. Barker and Associates. S. Peters said the slide show will be no problem and the setting of the meetings will not be a problem. The problem will be getting people to the meetings. We will need to take the information from the meetings, create a matrix and bring that information to the people. C. McDaniel-Thomas would like to review the timeline to make sure we are on track. We have the walk throughs coming up and then the meeting to discuss the numbers from K. Barker and Assoc. It was commented that K. Barker is digging deeper than the Turner Report. That will be the number for the bond. C. McDaniel-Thomas said we will need the number before the Listening Sessions. We will need to figure out where we will have the meetings and how many meetings. S. Peters said years ago we held a Safety and Security Listening Sessions. We should run the meetings like a Deliberative Session and catch the meeting verbatim with interactive dialogue. Have the meeting on the screen. It was asked if we would have enough information to respond to the questions. S. Peters said K. Barker will be present at the

meetings and if we do not have the information yet we will research and then present. B. Tatro commented that Zoom might bring a bigger audience. S. Peters is not sure how to moderate through Zoom. He said possibly through Chat. C. McDaniel-Thomas asked if we will get enough people to attend if we have multiple sessions in the same town. D. LeClair suggested letting people know about the sessions at events at the school. S. Peters suggested such as Open House. C. McDaniel-Thomas said it is an audience not to waste. It was commented to connect with everyone but parents up to grade three would have the most interest but probably not the MRMHS. C. McDaniel-Thomas suggested a hand out at any event regarding the Listening Sessions. S. Peters suggested a paper with a few points to be handed out. D. LeClair would suggest recording information and playing it at the Open House events. S. Peters would like to take the first stab at the slide show. Make sure the information put on the website is understood and readable by all. C. McDaniel-Thomas suggested making sure K. Barker is available, the schools are available and Board Members from each of their towns attend the Listening Sessions. S. Peters suggested having L. Sutton schedule the meetings. We will create the laundry list. The PR Firm should help with getting the word out. He said this committee should have a relationship with the PR Firm like we already do with K. Barker. C. McDaniel-Thomas said T. Zuppa from the John Gilfoil PR Firm attended the last meeting. C. McDaniel-Thomas said we need to meet with the Selectboard. She said to not interfere with their meetings. We could go to their meeting as another option. It was suggested to ask the Board Members tonight about their town newsletters in order to put information in about the Listening Sessions and other information such as Save the Dates. We also need to be mindful that we do not want to do something the PR Firm could do.

**c. What are our talking points for Listening Tours:**

**5. New Business:**

**a. Additional Meetings:** S. Peters said the committee would be a little rushed if we only have one more meeting before the Listening Sessions. We need to have the numbers from the Finance and Facilities Committee. The administration responded about the Open House dates. There are no Open House events, the district will have soft opening days instead.

**b. Choosing a Website Design:** C. McDaniel-Thomas presented 3 website designs the PR Firm is currently using with their current clients. The committee chose

the Pentucket website. C. McDaniel-Thomas said she liked that it started with what the schools would look like, it tells the story and the cost. D. LeClair said it will be different because we are dealing with 3 schools. C. McDaniel-Thomas would suggest directing the PR Firm to do one school at a time with no limit of slides. S.Peters said the website information from the PR Firm is a 2 week project. We should give them latitude. We will ask the administration to work with the PR Firm and have the information reviewed by this committee. **MOTION:** B. Tatro **MOVED** to empower the John Gilfoil Public Relations Firm to proceed with developing a presentation based on the format used for Pentucket Regional School District with a real time input from the Board Chair, CRC Committee Chair and administration. **SECOND:** S. Peters. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**c. Discussion regarding the Ad hoc Committee:** C. McDaniel-Thomas asked if we should ask more people to become involved. S. Peters said K. Barker had suggested there was value in an Ad hoc Committee. S. Peters said it would not be for this year. In December we will approve K. Barker's design. The Listening Sessions are the input to support the designs. The Ad hoc is to help after the vote colors, interior design for community involvement.

**d. What do we want from Facility and Finance and When do we want it?**  
The committee will need to have the numbers from the Fin/Fac Committee for the Listening Sessions.

**6. Setting the next meeting's date, time and agenda:** Sept. 21, 2021.

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

**8. Adjourn: MOTION:** D. LeClair **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 PM.  
**SECOND:** B.Tatro **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

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