

**Monadnock Regional School District  
Community Relations Committee Meeting Minutes  
January 5, 2021  
ZOOM Virtual Meeting, Swanzey, NH**

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

**Also Present:** L. Witte, Superintendent and L. Aivaliotis, MRSD Recording Secretary.

1. **Public Comments:** There were no public comments.
  
2. **Approval of Minutes: MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to approve the November 17, 2020 CRC Meeting Minutes as presented. **SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas. **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**
  
3. **Standing Agenda Items:**
  - a. **Work towards goals:**
  
4. **Old Business:**
  - a. **Finalize brochure for building project:** C. McDaniel-Thomas said the committee was able to address the concerns of Gilsum in the brochure. D. LaPointe and K. Barker had previously worked together on the list of renovations, D. LaPointe added to the list and tweaked the numbers. They do not match the original report. S.Peters said K. Barker explained the modernization standards but it is still a big gap in the numbers. It was explained the long term projects are estimated at \$925,000.00, the mid projects are estimated at \$479,000.00 and the short term projects are estimated at \$481,000.00 for a total of \$1,885,000.00 for Gilsum. S. Peters said the amount for the projects as part of the renovations for Gilsum were stated at \$4,437,000.00 in the brochure. K. Barker added the change to the foyer which is a big cost and not included in the CIP. J. Morin said K. Barker seems to think he can eliminate \$1.1 million from the \$4.4 million. S. Peters does not like the story to get to this point. D. LeClair said to hit the voters with the straight facts. Let the voters know we are saving a considerable amount over time. L. Witte said to somehow reiterate that they are estimates to get us to the next step. We would rather have them high but be fiscally responsible and cautious. L. Witte said these are estimates. It will require another vote to move forward on the projects. There is another chance for the voters to make a final decision. C.

McDaniel-Thomas asked why such a significant amount for Gilsum. S. Peters said that would be a good conversation at the Board Meeting. S. Peters asked L. Witte if he and C. McDaniel-Thomas could be a part of the brochure design. L. Witte will connect offline with them both. C. McDaniel-Thomas said the brochure with the corrections is as good as it gets.

**b. Warrant Articles in plain language:** C. McDaniel-Thomas used a previous warrant article in plain language sheet to see how the process was done. S. Peters said tonight the School Board will vote on the proposed budget, warrant articles and warrant articles in plain language. L. Witte said the proposed budget is \$33,307,289.00 including the \$970,000.00. The default J. Morin figured out is \$250,000.00 higher than the proposed. L. Witte said the proposed budget and the default budget can change at the Deliberative Session. D. LeClair said we need to know the default number before approving the proposed budget. L. Witte said she does not believe the Budget Committee will change the default, they usually agree with J. Morin's number. The proposed is at \$33,307.289 and the default is at \$33,564,758.00. S. Peters said the Board will vote on Article One on January 19, 2021. The School Board will vote on the warrant articles in plain language. L. Witte would like to reword the plain language regarding the restructuring of the administrative team in Article One. Article Two, unit ventilators may be changed by the Board. Article Three is for Blueprint costs. S. Peters would suggest the School Board review what the CRC has done, take their input and make the changes at the next meeting if necessary. The committee also reviewed Article 4, 5 and 6, the contracts for the 3 units. **B. Tatro arrives.** B. Tatro would like to make it plain language. You do not want it to be so long. C. McDaniel-Thomas explained she included the people in the MESSA bargaining unit. Article Seven is the Special Education Expendable Trust. Currently there is a balance of \$333,922.76 in the account.

**c. Promotion of current building projects:** What are the current building projects and explain to the Budget Committee what is happening.

## **5. New Business:**

**a. Plan for board members to attend select board meetings (letters to boards, talking points):** The committee would like to ask the administrative team for talking points. The committee members should have something to bring to the meetings.

6. **Setting next meeting's date, time and agenda:** The committee will meet again on February 4, 2021.

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

8. **Adjourn: MOTION:** S.Peters **MOVED** to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 PM.  
**SECOND:** C. McDaniel-Thomas **VOTE:** Unanimous for those present. **Motion passes.**  
**Respectfully submitted,**

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