

TMMA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes May 13, 2015

Parker Room, Town Office Building

Attendees:

| Name | Precinct |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Andy Friedlich* | 5, Chair |
| Bob Avallone* | 8, Webmaster |
| Saatvik Ahluwalia* | 5, Clerk |
| Mary Burnell* | 7, Treasurer |
| Bill Hurley | 5, School Committee liaison |
| Elaine Ashton* | 1 |
| Scott Bokun* | 9 |
| Tom Brennan* | 6 |
| Kate Colburn* | 4 |
| David Kaufman* | 6 |
| Jeanne Canale* | 9, Vice-Chair |
| Paul Rubin* | 7 |
| Dinesh Patel* | 6 |
| Ben Moroze* | 7 |
| Vicki Blier* | 9, Email List Moderator |
| Brian Heffernan* | 1 |
| Gang Chen* | 8 |

Note: * denotes members of Executive Committee

Meeting called to order at 7:44 PM. 14 members present, representing a quorum.

Treasurer's Report:

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Balance March 31, 2015 | \$631.14 |
| Expenses: | |
| • Irene Dondley (Buttons) | \$39.95 |
| • Jessie Steigerwald (Buttons Mock TM) | \$235.00 |
| • Andy Friedlich (gift J Osten) | \$55.00 |
| • Wilson's Farm (cake) | <u>\$139.99</u> |
| Total | \$469.94 |
| Deposits | \$1670.00 |
| Balance | \$1831.20 |

Approve February Minutes:

Jeanne Canale changed "Future Agenda Items" because Vicki Blier had proposed to change Executive Committee meetings from Wed. Nights and Andy Friedlich proposed having a meeting to discuss possible changes to how info sessions are run. The February minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

School Committee Update:

As the School Committee liaison, Bill Hurley discussed the development of the consensus document during the spring. There will be an upcoming meeting with some members from the Capital Expenditures, Appropriations, School Committee, and the Board of Selectmen to prepare for an upcoming summit meeting.

Consensus document calls for further study and preliminary drawings of meeting space needed for anticipated increased enrollment at pre-k, elementary, middle school.

Pre-K and Elementary:

Prefabricated modular at Fiske, Bridge, Bowman, and are looking to build a new elementary school at Hastings for 600 students

Middle School:

Place additions to Diamond and possibly Clarke. Diamond has space for additions while the Clarke site presents more challenges for expansion.

Open summit meeting scheduled for July 14 and 16. Architect will inform the public about what we can do regarding additions. A website will also be created to keep boards, committees, and community engaged.

Bob Avallone asked if there were plans to build a new Hastings. Bill Hurley responded that they would like a new one to have 600 students, but the final decision on size will be tied to a decision on where to locate pre-k.

Andrew Friedlich asked about possible lots for a pre-school:

- Near Harrington and Central Office
- Land near Laconia and Webb Street

Regarding a new Hastings- application was submitted to Department of Education but it was rejected. Another application has been submitted for the fall. We will hear back in December.

Elaine Ashton brought up the topic of school enrollment. Conversation leads to discussion about growing demand for before-school "extended day". Issues with idea arise regarding physical capacity, logistical issues with centralized before-school, and infringing on the time teachers have in classrooms to prepare.

Since she will be attending Executive Committee meetings as a precinct officer, Margaret Coppe will be taking over as liaison for TMMA Executive Committee.

Board of Selectmen Update:

Due to a conflict with another meeting, Joe Pato was unfortunately unable to attend.

Agenda Items for the Upcoming Year:

Andy asked what kind of agenda items would folks like to see for the upcoming year. He mentioned setting up a meeting to discuss:

- **How to improve the TMMMA Information Sessions.** To include the “major players”, there should be attendees from the Board of Selectmen, School Committee, Planning Board, Appropriation Committee, Capital Expenditures Committee and Community Preservation Committee.
(Others mentioned having Publishable Q & As, put pictures and presentations up online after every info session and maybe having one meeting per Board/ Committee for information)

Other proposed agenda items mentioned were:

- How to mitigate real-estate tax issues
- Housing destruction, mansionization
- Sustainability, GWAC
- School building budget
- How to talk to seniors about their issues

New Business:

Andy brought up the map of Town Meeting Members that was created and sent to the TMMMA email list. Some people were concerned that the map put too much private information in the public domain. Based on the response, the map was fixed.

Announcements

The May 18th Board of Selectmen meeting will include a meeting with engineers for Mass Ave/Woburn St intersection with a public hearing on Jun 10th. Thus, Andy suggested that we move the June Executive Committee meeting to June 17th. The meeting will be with the Town Moderator for the annual Town Meeting Review and will be in the Hadley Building (DPW) Cafeteria.

There will be a Planning Board listening session on housing on Wed the 20th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:32 PM