

**BARNET SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 12, 2010**

Members in Attendance: Supt. Martha Tucker, Principal Shawn Gonyaw, Business Mgr. Rob Billings, Shellie Samuels, Lori Werdenschlag, Shannon Larocque, Louis Bushey, Jim Schenck, and Kathy Zita – Minute Recorder (after Executive Session).

6:05pm Meeting called to order by Chair Shellie Samuels. On a motion of Shannon Larocque, seconded by Louis Bushey, it was approved to go into executive session to discuss personnel & teacher contracts.

6:47pm Out of Executive Session, on a motion of Louis Bushey, seconded by Jim Schenck.

6:49pm Regular meeting resumes.

Public in Attendance: Dave Warden, Chris & Leeanna Roy, Katie Young, Sandra Mings-Lamar

Approval of Minutes – 9/14/10: On a motion of SL, seconded by LW the minutes were approved as amended. Motion passes.

Public Input: Dave Warden mentioned that on Sunday, October 17th at 1:00pm at the Barnet Library, the Barnet Historical Society would be having a discussion about old water powered industrial sites on the Stevens River in Barnet.

Principal's Report:

- Shawn Gonyaw reported on VTVLC Fall 2010 schedule.
- Bedbug prevention and precautions.
- Facilities Committee – He reported that the FC would like to purchase a snow blower (\$5K) fitted to go on a new tractor in the event we update our current tractor to a newer model. There was also discussion about changing the current Plumber – this will be discussed further under other business.
- Staff Development Curriculum: Writing Committee is currently planning a school-wide writing assessment. Technology committee is planning to educate the staff more about Smart-boards.
- Mont shire Museum – approached us about working with K-2 teachers to do unit development for plants and insect life cycles. They would also like to work with 5th grade on science projects.

Superintendent's Report:

- VSBA Conference is coming up and she would like to know which Board members would like to attend.

Other Business:

- **Bussing Issue:** The Principal and Town Road Manager have done some investigative work. On a motion of JS seconded by LW it was decided to leave the bus route as it currently is and not to go with the requested revised bus stop, which would cost an additional \$1K. Motion PASSES.

Leeanna Roy brought up a concern about the bus route changing the order in which they drop students off without notifying the school or parents.

- **Snow Blower:** Shannon Larocque updated the Board on the Facilities Committee meeting and the discussions surrounding the snow blower, which would cost around \$5K. Principal stated that Burleigh checked and said that the snow blower will fit a new tractor. On a motion of Shannon Larocque, seconded by Louis Bushey it was approved to allocate \$5K to purchase a new snow blower when the funds from the transfer switch are replenished in long term maintenance.
- On a motion of Louis Bushey, seconded Lori Werdenschlag the 2 residency requests were approved as discussed in Executive Session. Motion Passes with Shannon Larocque abstaining.
- **Plumber:** Shannon Larocque reported that the current plumber hasn't been performing to Burleigh Huntoon's expectations. The two that he would consider as a replacement are Mike Surreal and Harris Plumbing and Heating. On a motion of Louis Bushey, seconded Lori Werdenschlag it was approved to authorize the Facilities Director to hire a replacement plumber for the school. Motion passes.
- Principal reported on what trips the teachers go on and what GE they tie into. The teachers provided him with a long list, which looks well utilized. He will provide the list at the next meeting.
- Principal reported that he spoke with Mary Prior's family about dedicating the Library in her name; they are agreeable to this. The Board would like for Principal to follow up with this.

Old Business:

- **Policies:** On a motion of Jim Schenck, seconded by Lori Werdenschlag it was approved to adopt the Public Participation at Board Meetings, Board Member Conflict of Interest and Board Commitment to Non-Discrimination policies. Motion passes.
- **1st Reading: Truancy Policy** – This policy exists because the State requires each of the Boards to have a truancy policy in place. The Supt. reviewed the policy with neighboring Superintendents so that it would be the same policy. She noted that this policy goes hand in hand with the attendance policy, which we will have to be reviewed. It was noted that the reference to F25 mentioned in the policy would need to be better defined. This will be brought back for a second reading.
- **Rescinded Policies: The following policies will be rescinded because they aren't necessary as policies but instead will be used as procedures:** - Statutory Authority, - Qualifications, - Powers & Duties, - Meetings: Regular, Monthly & Special Meetings & Executive Session, - Minutes, - Policy Development, - Policy Warning, - Officers, - Powers of the Chair, - Responsibilities of the Clerk, - School Calendar, - School Day, - Emergency Closing. Jim Schenck stated that the Board would need to see what procedures are in place for what is being rescinded. The Supt. will bring these to the next meeting.

New Business:

- **Board Priorities for Budget 2012:** Now is the time for the Board to think about what priorities should be included in the Budget. There was discussion regarding CCSU target budget and the school budget. The new target for Barnet is a reduction of \$230K, which doesn't seem realistic; therefore we will need to consider what is in the best interest of the students without

compromising their education. There was discussion about what is considered a priority; and where there should be reductions. Other possible reductions discussed were keeping enrollments from getting to high (class size model); possibly cutting back on foreign language and after-school sports may have to find other methods of funding things instead of through the school budget (bus, uniforms, referees, etc.), the need to adhere to current curriculum, and keeping specials. The Supt. and Principal will work on getting information out to the community regarding the forum for discussing the Budget.

- Supt. stated that there will be a meeting concerning the 21st Century Learning Grant at the CCSU office. People can learn more about the grant process at this meeting. We are still looking for people to help with the planning.
- Supt. Reviewed the Act 153 and explained about how there were a lot of differences of opinion.

Future Agenda Items: 1) Policies: Adoptions and Rescinding; 2) Generator Ownership, 3) Library dedication discussion. There was a brief discussion about following the wishes of Mary Prior.

Next School Board Meeting(s):

CCSU Meeting: Thursday, October 14, 2010 at 6pm at Danville School.

Regular School Board Meeting: November 9, 2010 at 6:00pm at Barnet School

Special Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 30, 2010 at 6:00pm at Barnet School

Regular School Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 14, 2010 at 6:00pm at Barnet School.

8:35p On a motion of Louis Bushey, seconded by Lori Werdenschlag the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen C. Zita
Barnet School Minute Recorder