

Sunapee School Board Meeting
SMHS Media Center
October 1, 2008

Call to Order: Meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Shaun Carroll

Roll Call: Shaun Carroll- Chair
Judy Trow- Chair
Hershel Strickland- Member
Edward Bailey- Member
Kim Denney- Member

Others Present: Brendan Minnihan- Chair
Jim Vezina- Business Administrator
Kelly Cornish- Financial Manager
Sean Moynihan- SMHS Principal
Kate Dunlap- School Board Secretary

Pledge of Allegiance:

Senior, Stephanie Larpenter led the Pledge of Allegiance. A moment of silence was led by Shaun Carroll.

Public:

There was no public.

Good News:

Sean Moynihan presented the NECAP Test scores to the Board. The test showed Sunapee above area schools. (See Handout). He is meeting with the editor of the Eagle Times due to a story that was run that said that Sunapee doesn't have a large number of students which in turn leads to better test scores instead of congratulating the strength's of the student. He noted that Sunapee is also above the State average on the SAT's.

Sean Moynihan thanked Hershel Strickland for the nice article written in the paper about the sports team.

Sean Moynihan introduced Seniors, Stephen Kirk and Stephanie Larpenter, to the Board. They spoke on the Athletic Community Leadership Council in which thirteen Sunapee High School students take part in. The council is only for grades nine through twelve and teaches student athletes about becoming better leaders and role models for their teams. They meet once a week.

Every year they are invited to attend the regional conference of the Athletic Leadership

Council in Bedford, NH. They learn how to handle problems on your team, play games, learn bonding methods for teamwork and converse on methods with other Class I teams.

This year the Sunapee council is sending six students to the conference. Many are looking forward to the possibility of presenting at this year's conference which would be a first time for Sunapee.

The Sunapee council also volunteers in the area like the Annual Chowderfest, the Lions Club 60th Celebration and spending time with the younger grades. The Sunapee council brought the elementary, middle and high school together and taught students how to become better leaders. They played games and taught different strategies.

The Board thanked the students for coming and giving the presentation.

Superintendent-Board Communications:

Brendan Minnihan recognized Seniors, Stephen Kirk and Alec Tomonou, for their role in helping Sunapee win the State Golf Championship.

Brendan Minnihan handed out the NHSBA Resolutions for the Board to read and approve. All members approved.

Brendan Minnihan told the Board he is planning on meeting with Department Heads and Principals to find out what the needs will be; he doesn't think the budget would need as many meetings as in the past. The Board agreed.

Brendan Minnihan informed the Board that 403B regulations are getting stricter and makes it hard for small districts and businesses. There are faculty in Sunapee with 403B's, but the SAU will try to meet with every individual who will be affected.

Minutes:

Hershel Strickland moved to approve the minutes of September 3, 2008.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Blodgett Property:

Judy Trow asked the fellow Board members if they would like to attend a presentation at the Nolton House on October 6th at 6:30 p.m. There will be a speaker will talk about how to speak to the public when on a Board. Shaun Carroll and Kim Denney said they would attend.

Dan Bisson from Team Design explained to the Board that the National Historic Preservation Act protects historic resource. To gain access to the public money

associated with the act you have to follow the guidelines. It is a Federal requirement to research any property older than fifty years. After investigating, the Blodgett Property looks to have potential historic significance, but has not done further research as of yet. He explained that if the Board wants State aid then you have to go through with registering the property as one with historical significance.

Dan Bisson said his original number of \$325,000 was an estimate it could come in lower or higher, but you will only know after schematics are completed. He said that schematics cost \$15,000. He said the design will take one to two months and is willing to do the project in pieces if necessary. If the Board decides to go through with the project then they would get 40% back through State aid.

The Board discussed the \$150,000 appropriated in Article 10 specifically for the Blodgett Property.

Hershel Strickland authorized the Superintendent to use \$15,000 for the purposes of schematic designs for a new SAU #85 at the Blodgett Property.

Judy Trow seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Food Program:

Val Sanborn, Food Service Director, spoke to the Board on how they could help make the program better. (See Handout).

Judy Trow said she would like to recognize retired food service employee, Alona Drew, for her almost 40 years of service with the Sunapee School District. Alona Drew retired over the summer so the Board did not find out until recently. Judy Trow, Brendan Minnihan and Val Sanborn will get together to discuss what they should do.

Val Sanborn said that numbers are down at Breakfast from 180-200 students last year to now 60-80 students. This is due to change in the school starting time.

Val Sanborn said she needs a commercial grade microwave and large warmer for the elementary school. Kelly Cornish will help her order her equipment. Val Sanborn would also like a new register. The Board said they will have Mike Montore look at purchasing one that can hook up to her computer system to make inventory and ordering easier.

The Board discussed the \$42, 000 in the food service fund.

Hershel Strickland moved to authorize the Superintendent to buy a warmer and commercial grade microwave.

Kim Denney seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Bond Estimate -SCES-:

Jim Vezina said there is still \$270,000 left on the principal of the current bond and \$50,000 left interest.

He looked at getting a twenty year bond for renovating the current elementary school. The current bond will be up in 2012. With a twenty year bond the Board could borrow \$4 million dollars. If the Board did the project in sections there could be no bond; it is better to do the project all at once. This bond rate would stay consistent with the current bond rate. State aid for an elementary school would be 30%. Four years from now looks good since borrowing money and the interest rates are variable right now.

Manifest:

Kelly Cornish presented the manifest for September with a grand total of \$271, 963. 10.

Hershel Strickland moved to accept the manifest as presented.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Committees:

The Board decided to stay with only two committees as follows:

Blodgett Property- Kim Denney and Shaun Carroll

Capital Improvements- Shaun Carroll and Edward Bailey (first meeting October 2)

The Board and the Superintendent are going to concentrate on the curriculum next year.

Brendan Minnihan said the meeting between the Chief of Police and himself went very well. The Chief is the school truant officer.

Policy-BEA:

Hershel Strickland moved to approve policy BEA as presented.

Edward Bailey seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Agenda Items:

- Superintendent will present budget to the Board. Timeline will be distributed to the Board within the week of this meeting as well as the Chair of the BAC.
- Both committees will report back to the Board as to their progress.

Nonpublic Session:

Shaun Carroll moved to enter nonpublic session at 8:40 p.m. under RSA 91:aIIc.

Hershel Strickland seconded the motion.

Vote was unanimous.

Roll Call: Judy Trow
Kim Denney
Shaun Carroll
Brendan Minnihan
Edward Bailey
Hershel Strickland

Submitted By
Katherine Dunlap
Sunapee School Board Secretary