

FAIRHAVEN SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 27, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Bueno, Mr. Veitch, Ms. Kuechler, Mr. Andersen, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT: Mrs. Kohler, Mr. Balestracci, Mrs. Potter, Ms. Bouchard

STAFF ABSENT: Dr. Bettencourt, Ms. Gunschel

OTHERS PRESENT: Member of the community, students, and staff

Mrs. Kohler read the recording policies for the meeting.

The organizational meeting was called to order by Mrs. Kohler at 6:31pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

The organization of the school committee began with nominations for Chair. Mr. Monroe nominated Ms. Kuechler as Chair, seconded by Mr. Veitch. There were no other nominations or discussions. Approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Mrs. Kohler turned the meeting over to Ms. Kuechler. Ms. Kuechler asked for nominations for Vice-Chair. Ms. Kuechler nominated Mr. Monroe as Vice-Chair, seconded by Mr. Bueno. There were no other nominations or discussions. Approved, 6-0, unanimously.

The Committee recently appointed members Mr. Monroe, Mr. Andersen, and Mr. Veitch to the Policy Sub-Committee. The Committee elected to keep this Sub-Committee as is at this time.

Ms. Kuechler asked for nominations for the SMEC Board of Directors. Mr. Veitch nominated Ms. McKenna, seconded by Mr. Monroe. There were no other nominations or discussions. Approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Ms. Kuechler asked for volunteers for the Negotiations Sub-Committee. Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, and Mr. Monroe volunteered. Motion made by Ms. McKenna to appoint Mr. Andersen, Mr. Monroe, and Mr. Bueno to the Negotiations Sub-Committee seconded by Mr. Veitch. There were no other nominations or discussions. Approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Ms. Kuechler also discussed the Lagoa Friendship Committee. Mr. Bueno would like to continue to serve on the Lagoa Friendship Committee. Motion made by Mr. Monroe to appoint Mr. Bueno to the Lagoa Friendship Committee, seconded by Mr. Veitch, approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Motion to adjourn the Organizational Meeting and go into regular session made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Monroe, approved, 6-0, unanimously.

Roll Call of Committee Members: Mr. Andersen, Mr. Bueno, Mr. Monroe, Ms. McKenna, Mr. Veitch, Ms. Kuechler

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from April 6, 2022 was made by Mr. Bueno, seconded by Mr. Monroe, 6-0, approved, unanimously.

Report of the Student Advisory Committee

Ms. Foster spoke regarding Prom tickets, NAHS, Media Students Film Festival, AP Exams, and Senior Happenings. Mr. Monroe was not in attendance.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Prior to going into the Reports and Recommendations by the Superintendent, Mrs. Kohler discussed a Stay Put incident that happened earlier. It was determined to be a hoax in the area.

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Receive update regarding status of COVID19.

Mrs. Kohler presented. She stated that numbers are fluctuating. She spoke of a trajectory toward the future. She hopes end of year celebrations will look like they have in the past. Mr. Balestracci discussed the success of the afterschool programs. He also discussed the seniors who are engaged in the 13th Year program at Upper Cape Tech as the pilot program began on Monday.

Ms. Kuechler took the agenda out of order and invited the presentation by Dr. Bettencourt and the students of Elizabeth Hastings Middle School regarding Open Air Time. Mrs. Kohler discussed open air time and the feedback that she has received from students regarding it. She also stated that it is possible in the future that we may be able to present open air time as something that could be included in our Teaching and Learning plan and therefore, be counted as time towards learning. Dr. Bettencourt then presented and gave the history of how open air time came to be. He stated this has been four years in the making. He also stated that he has done some research regarding play amongst adolescents and how open air time can positively affect our scholars. A video was shown and then students presented. The Committee asked questions of the students and received feedback.

Receive update regarding Turf Project at FHS.

- Restroom project update

Mrs. Kohler presented. We have met with the Building Inspector and we have been given the ok to proceed. We had originally put this through Capital Planning, but feel we can put it through in regular budget with the most recent plan After speaking with the new Town Administrator.

Budget Update

Mrs. Kohler presented. She went over a list of things that need to get done by the end of the year. She went over several items including the gym at EHMS, the lights in gym at Wood, the roof at EHMS, library furniture at FHS, and the playground resurfacing at Wood. The Ad Center and the High School were identified as a high need. We are focusing on the High School project and we recently found out we were being put forward for approval through Capital Planning.

Upcoming Events

The next meeting is: May 11, 2022

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Vote to accept a \$100 anonymous donation to the FHS Girls Tennis Team. Motion made to accept a \$100 anonymous donation to the FHS Girls Tennis Team made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Mr. Bueno, approved, 6-0, unanimously

Executive Session

There will be no Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Monroe, seconded by Ms. McKenna, approved, unanimously, 6-0. Adjourned at 7:36p.m.



Tara M. Kohler
Secretary to the School Committee
Fairhaven Public Schools