

## **HEART COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES: for the meeting of February 28, 2018**

### Committee Members Present:

Michele Giarusso, Chair	Jess Marshall	Jean Page
Tracy Rogers, Secretary	Tony Matteo	Ginger Robinson
Bob Keir	Sue O'Reilly McRae	Bill Wahlstrom

### Others Present:

Debbie Lynangale, facilitator

### Committee Members Absent:

Alan Genovese, Cheryl George

### Called to Order

**The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.**

### Minutes

**Jean made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 14, 2018 meeting as written. Tony seconded the motion and it was carried by a major vote. Bob abstained.**

### Updates

Jess Marshall introduced herself as the new Warwick representative.

### Reenvisioning Sustainable Rural Schools Event

198 Save the Dates went out; 36 yes, 7 maybe, 7 nos. Paul wants to meet with us after 3/12 Adam Hinds meeting before our 3/24 event.

- 9:00 Meet & greet with tables for each group (BEST, HEART, etc.) having handouts about themselves
- 9:30 Ginger make opening remarks and introduce Paul. Paul introduce other legislators. Michele introduce speakers.
- 9:50 Sue – Rural Matters summary
- 10:10 Kevin Courtney – review 20/20 Vision
- 10:30 Legislative updates
- 10:50 Break
- 11:00 Buoniconti - Rural Schools Coalition proposal
- 11:20 Greg Snedeker – Revisiting State's foundation budget and c. 70
- 11:40 Discussion of next steps facilitated by Rep. Mark

Reviewed Sue's info sheet.

Cheryl asked Debbie to ask for feedback on six logos. Committee chose #1: b&w with apple colored in red. Debbie will ask Cheryl to send final logo and Facebook page info to Sue to include on info sheet.

Bob agreed to monitor the HEART Gmail account.

Sue and Tracy will send real invitation out once we get the logo from Cheryl.

#### Request for Proposals for Study Consultant

Meet 7-9 on 3/14. Tracy scan and send out ahead of time with metric.

#### Other Updates

Reps on Cte: Bernardston town coord sent certified letter to Joe, which he hasn't picked up yet.

School Cte meeting: Ruth agreed to contact regional DESE office to get recommendations on updating basic agreement with regard to state law.

Other voting reps: Sue follow up with Warwick. Michele check with Leyden. Bob follow up with Bernardston.

#### Spring Activities

Bob's proposal:

To see if the Town will vote to amend the Pioneer Valley Regional School District agreement to strike in its entirety sub-section B of Section III - Students, which states "it is intended that all residents of the member towns in grades kindergarten to six, inclusive, will receive their education in facilities located in their respective towns, except as hereinafter provided", and to add the following as a new Section III-Students "Students with special needs receiving services under the provisions of Chapter 71B of the Massachusetts General Laws, as amended, shall attend school as designated through the IEP process. Students may also be accommodated in other elementary schools within the district, provided that the Committee determines that such a reassignment is prudent, and can be accomplished in the best interest of the student."

IEP language recommended by DESE according to Ruth.

Might have unintended consequences to present this now. Communities may think this means we're definitely considering closing an elementary school. Preference to address whole Agreement at once. Concern the state will take over the District and then we'll have no options.

On Northfield SB's agenda. General consensus to not bring this forward at this time. Tracy remove from Nfld agenda.

Table discussion of other activities until we get the consultant on board—4/11 meeting.

#### Operating Agreement

Tabled until 4/11.

We have Debbie through late fall. What is our plan after that? Should we have Debbie teach us how to facilitate our own meetings? Will we look for more funds to keep her on? We could handle the 3/28 meeting without Debbie.

Adjournment

**Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.**

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, March 14, 2018 7:00 p.m. at the Northfield Town Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tracy Rogers", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

*Tracy Rogers*