

**Minutes of the  
Monson School Committee  
Re-Organization/Business Meeting  
Quarry Hill Community School – School Committee Meeting Room  
June 21, 2017**

**Present:** Chair Peter Sauriol; Vice Chair Joshua Farber; Secretary Patricia Oney; Committee Member Joel Keller

**Also Present:** Superintendent Cheryl Clarke, Director of Business & Facilities Don Smith and Recording Secretary Karen Methe

**Note:** This meeting was video-recorded.

Chair Sauriol called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Keller read the **Mission & Vision Statements**.

Chair Sauriol then turned the meeting over to Superintendent Clarke.

Mrs. Clarke stated that the next order of business was to re-organize the Monson School Committee and determine the other positions of the Committee. She reviewed the ground rules for nominations. Following, she opened the floor for nomination for Chair of the School Committee.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to nominate Mr. Farber as Chair of the Committee.  
(Second by Mr. Sauriol)**
- **Motion by Mr. Keller to nominate Mr. Sauriol as Chair of the Committee.  
(Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No further nominations**
- **Mrs. Clarke asked for a vote to accept the nomination of Mr. Farber as  
Chair of the Committee.**
- **Yes – 2        No – 2 (Ms. Heroux abstained)**
- **Mrs. Clarke asked for a vote to accept Mr. Sauriol as Chair of the  
Committee.**
- **Yes – 2        No – 2 (Ms. Heroux abstained)**
- **Both motions denied**

Mrs. Clarke was advised to re-open the nominations.

Mr. Sauriol and Mr. Farber researched Robert's Rules for the procedure regarding a non-majority vote.

Nominations were re-opened.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to nominate Mr. Farber as Chair of the Committee.  
(Second by Mr. Farber)**

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Mrs. Clarke asked for further nominations to which Mr. Keller stated that Mr. Sauriol was still researching information.

- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to nominate Mr. Keller as Chair of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **No further nominations**
- **Mrs. Clarke asked for a vote to accept the nomination of Mr. Farber as Chair of the Committee.**
- **Yes – 2            No – 2**
- **Mrs. Clarke asked for a vote to accept the nomination of Mr. Keller as Chair of the Committee.**
- **Yes – 2            No – 2**
- **Both motions denied**

At this time, new member Ms. Heroux requested that each member briefly state their vision for the Committee.

Mrs. Clarke opened the floor for discussion.

Mr. Keller stated that he and Mr. Farber have chaired the Committee often and he would like to see one of the following options occur:

1. Mr. Sauriol remain as Chair continuing the work he has started stating he felt Mr. Sauriol has made the Committee more diligent and rigorous in how things are done procedurally.
2. Mr. Keller noted that he, Mr. Lord and Mr. Farber have each served two years as Chair of the Committee. Mr. Farber corrected that information stating he has only been Chair one time in the nine years he has served on the Committee. Mr. Keller then specified that if Mr. Sauriol did not continue as Chair, he would like to see someone new chairing the Committee.

Mr. Farber reviewed his history on the Committee offering what he has learned is that the most effective Chair and Superintendent relationship includes a person that is invested in working collaboratively and also ensuring that balance is maintained with various members' specialties. He highlighted several accomplishments during his time on the Committee.

Ms. Oney provided reasons for nominating Mr. Farber which included her perception of Mr. Sauriol and a former member's underlying current of not being comfortable with each other stating that she felt Mr. Farber would be able to pull the Committee together and offer stability. She said she was impressed with the knowledge that both Mr. Sauriol and Mr. Keller had but thought that as a long-time Committee member and an educator, Mr. Farber brings a wealth of knowledge that she appreciates.

Mr. Keller stated that over the past few years, though not Chair of the Committee, but also as Vice-Chair, he led the entire process of hiring an Interim Superintendent and subsequently the appointment of Mrs. Clarke as Superintendent, which he believes has led to the stability of the district adding he felt the process was handled in a very open and transparent way. Mr. Keller shared that he has exhibited many leadership qualities which include laying the foundation to get the Committee to where it is today under Mrs. Clarke's superintendency.

Mr. Sauriol provided reasons for wanting to continue as Committee Chair. He commented on the strides he feels were made during the last year surrounding structure, organization and efficiency of the Committee.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to nominate Mr. Farber as Chair of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to nominate himself as Chair of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Keller)**
- **No further nominations**
- **Mr. Farber requested a roll call vote.**
- **Mrs. Clarke asked for a roll call vote to accept the nomination of Mr. Farber as Chair of the Committee.**
- **Roll Call:**
  - Mr. Keller No**
  - Mr. Sauriol No**
  - Mr. Farber Yes**
  - Ms. Oney Yes**
  - Ms. Heroux Yes**
- **Motion carries 3-2**

Mrs. Clarke congratulated Mr. Farber and turned the meeting over to him to continue with the selections and appointments.

Mr. Farber opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair of the Committee.

- **Motion by Ms . Oney to nominate Mr. Sauriol as Vice Chair of the Committee. (Second by Ms. Heroux)**
- **Mr. Farber opened the floor for discussion.**
- **No discussion followed**
- **Mr. Farber asked for a roll call vote to accept the nomination of Mr. Sauriol as Vice Chair of the Committee.**
- **Roll Call:**
  - Mr. Keller Yes**
  - Mr. Sauriol Yes**
  - Mr. Farber Yes**
  - Ms. Oney Yes**
  - Ms. Heroux Yes**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Mr. Farber next opened the floor for nomination for Secretary of the Committee. He explained that past practice of the Committee was to nominate the newest member for this position.

- **Motion by Ms. Oney to nominate Ms. Heroux as Secretary of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Keller)**

Ms. Oney stated that though it has been the Committee's past practice to nominate the newest member of the Committee to the Secretary role, speaking from personal experience it was hard to be engaged as part of the Committee while being responsible for taking minutes either through the absence of the Recording Secretary or other meetings that require minutes taken. She added that she felt it was important as a new member to be able to listen and absorb the knowledge being presented as opposed to taking minutes.

Ms. Heroux declined the nomination of Secretary.

- **Motion by Mr. Keller to nominate himself as Secretary of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Discussion followed**
- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to nominate Ms. Oney as Secretary of the Committee. (Second by Mr. Farber)**
- **Ms. Oney declined the nomination.**
- **No further discussion**
- **A roll call vote was requested for the nomination of Mr. Keller as Secretary of the Committee.**  
**Roll Call:**  
**Mr. Keller    Yes**  
**Mr. Sauriol    Yes**  
**Mr. Farber    Yes**  
**Ms. Oney    Yes**  
**Ms. Heroux    Yes**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Mr. Farber thanked Mr. Sauriol for his service as former Chair of the Committee saying that the lightness and deep thought that has occurred during the last half-hour of discussion is almost entirely ascribable to the leadership that he has brought to the Committee over the last year. Mr. Farber noted that Mr. Sauriol has done a huge amount of work in preparing Committee members to speak openly, effectively and with an appropriate amount of levity about serious matters. There was a round of applause for Mr. Sauriol.

As Policy mandates, all Subcommittee liaison positions to the School Committee are assigned next. However, after discussion at the Policy Subcommittee meeting, questions arose regarding Policy BDE and the role of ex-officios and the Superintendent at such meetings.

- **Motion by Mr. Farber to table the reestablishment of Subcommittees at this time as stated in the Policy and extend the existing Subcommittees and personnel thereof as they currently exist to allow the Policy Subcommittee to review relevant Policy BDE information and make recommendations to this body as appropriate. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **There was a very lengthy discussion with members explaining their reasons for or against the motion on the table.**
- **No further discussion**
- **Mr. Farber called for a vote on the motion.**

- **Yes – 2            No – 3**
- **Motion denied**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to table the discussion on the establishment of Subcommittees until the next Regular Business Meeting. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Discussion followed**
- **Mr. Farber called for a vote on the motion.**
- **Yes – 2            No – 3**
- **Motion denied**

Assignments for Subcommittee liaisons were established. An updated list will be provided to Committee members.

**New Business:**

Mr. Slozak, Chair of the Summerfest Committee distributed informational packets to Committee members and apologized for the tardiness of the requests for approval of the fireworks display and beer garden on the grounds of Quarry Hill Community School, June 24, 2017, with a rain date of June 25, 2017.

- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to approve Summerfest’s use of the school grounds as presented. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Brief discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**
  
- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to approve the beer garden, as part of the fireworks display, as presented. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **Brief discussion**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

Mr. Slozak thanked the Committee and relayed building accessibility needs to Mr. Smith.

Mr. Sauriol informed the Committee that the Superintendent’s Evaluation was not yet complete. After discussion, it was decided that a Working Meeting would be scheduled for July 17, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. to continue with the summative evaluation.

The next Regular Business Meetings will be scheduled for July 19, 2017 and August 23, 2017.

- **Motion by Mr. Sauriol to adjourn Open Session and move to Executive Session under M.G.L. Chapter 30A §21a, Purpose #3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and Chair so declares, not to return to Open Session. (Second by Ms. Oney)**
- **No discussion**

- **Roll Call Vote:**
- **Mr. Keller**           **Yes**
- **Mr. Sauriol**       **Yes**
- **Mr. Farber**       **Yes**
- **Ms. Oney**       **Yes**
- **Ms. Heroux**       **Yes**
- **Motion carries 5-0**

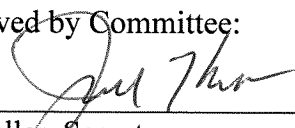
Open Session closed at 8:56 p.m.

Executive Session began at 9:04 p.m.

*Documentation for this meeting:*  
*Agenda*

*Distributed at meeting:*  
*Monson Summerfest Information Packet*

Approved by Committee:

  
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Mr. Keller, Secretary