

GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE
HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
Business Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2005 Approved October 19, 2005

PRESENT:

Ms. Cindy Barrett, Secretary
Ms. Kim Cowie
Mr. Paul Fitzgerald
Ms. Karen Lofgren
Mr. Chuck McKinney, Chair
Mr. Frank O'Connell, Vice-Chair
Mr. Alan Vervaeke

ADMINISTRATION:

Dr. Alan Genovese, Superintendent
Joan Endicott, Director Pupil Personnel Services
Dr. Sue Rubel, Director of Curriculum

STAFF, PRESS, OTHERS: See attached sign in sheet.

CALL TO ORDER

The GDRSC Meeting was called to back to order at 7:14 pm by the chair C. McKinney. He stated that they met in executive session at 6:30pm for the purposes of contract bargaining and internet security.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Genovese said he would like to introduce the administrative team:
Craig Young, Business Manager
Dr. Sue Rubel, Director of Curriculum
Joan Endicott, Director of Pupil Personnel Services
High School: Principal Joe Dillon; Tom Murray, Assistant Principal; Marisa Brisson, Dean of Students
Middle School: Principal Beth Raucci; Rosemary Vickery, Assistant Principal, Mark Branco, Assistant Principal
Florence Roche: Principal Launa Zimmaro; Michelle Youngs, Assistant Principal
Prescott: Principal Betty Lavin
Swallow Union: Principal Peter Myerson
Boutwell: Director Russell Hoyt
PTYC: Director Karen Tuomi
Technology Director, Barbara Morgan-White
Network Director, Gary Babin
A. Genovese said that lots of diversity, lots of good recommendations will come forward.

A. Genovese said someone had asked what the schools were doing for Hurricane Katrina victims and he wanted each principal to share what their school was doing.

Joe Dillon first introduced Kara Cover, the new senior high school student school committee representative. Joe then explained that at the high school they have used ideas from last year for the tsunami victims. Donate money for hearts on display with names on them, donate money typically spent for lunch, bracelets are being sold at lunches, they will bring some to the school committee. These were student initiatives, not directed by any adult in the building.

Beth Raucci said that very similar to what Joe is saying we thought it was important that the middle school connect with the victims of hurricane Katrina. Originally we had wanted to do a backpack-to-backpack program with Houston, TX but, this is very difficult logistically. Teacher Phyllis Lane has a friend who is a principal in LA, everyone will make personal connections, administrator-to-administrator, teacher-to-teacher, student-to-student. Heart-to-heart is where we end up.

Launa Zimmaro said they are doing a Coins for Kids program at Florence Roche, they have raised over \$1700. Parent Marian Madison initiated the program, she is from LA. Launa publicly thanked the families from Florence Roche for their generosity.

Peter Myerson said that Swallow Union is working with Jordan's Furniture. Jordan's will donate Mardi Gras necklaces that will be sold and that is how they are raising money.

Betty Lavin said that at Prescott they are starting a new club called the Prescott Ambassadors. They will do a coin and paper (dollar bill!) drive as their first project.

Russell Hoyt said that at Boutwell the school mascot is the butterfly. Teachers have helped the students decorate butterflies and we will get those to the kids affected.

C. McKinney announced that Paul Fitzgerald was appointed by a joint meeting of the Groton Board of Selectmen and Groton school committee members.

A. Vervaeke announced that there is going to be a program primarily run out of Swallow Union to collect gently used and clean Halloween costumes. Costumes will be collected at the library. On Oct 14 from 10am-2pm they will be sold at the library for approx. \$10. All of the money will be given to the Red Cross. They will also have a coin drive.

K. Lofgren announced that there will be a community wide yard sale on Saturday organized by Gail Someson. It will be held at Florence Roche, a good location. There is a family relocated in Groton who will be the first shoppers. Volunteers with trucks are needed to bring anything not sold to the Salvation Army in Lowell.

K. Lofgren announced that the SPED PAC elected officers. Nancy Bugbee is president, Sara Campbell is vice president, Marianne Squaglia is Secretary and Treasurer. They have completed a resource area in the Groton Public Library. They are looking for feedback about the resource area. The next meeting will be held Oct 25 in the HS library at 7pm. The topic is Meet Dr. Genovese.

REPORTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES

Budget and Finance- F. O'Connell reported that we met last night. Without C. Young there we did not discuss the quarterly report. Next meeting will be Oct 17; if we meet sooner it will be posted to let everyone know. We did talk about the budget process in the past and ways to change it. F. O'Connell said A. Genovese has a document. A. Genovese explained it is a way to dedicate 2 weeks, 6 presentations, have town members and budget and finance present. Will discuss how the budget impacts school improvement plans. Would like to move off of developing a budget one year at a time, want to do 3-4-5 year planning. For example, curriculum may need to know what needs to be purchased. A. Genovese knows some of this information exists.

Policy- K. Lofgren announced that policy meet last Friday. Policies were sorted and prioritized. Policies to be worked on over the next few months include Food Allergy Policy, Revised CORI, Security Surveillance, Changes to Commercial Advertising Policy. Next meeting will be Oct 25 at 7pm at the HS.

Building- A. Vervaeke announced that the HS water system is operational and that samples are being tested. Hope to see the water is free and clear of lead by New Years, if all goes well.

Naming-K. Cowie said that she would wait until presentations since B. Raucci is here.

C. McKinney asked if there were updates from any other committees?

A. Vervaeke said at the last meeting we talked about the communication subcommittee. A. Vervaeke thinks a communication committee makes sense, it was utilized to its best advantage last year, it uses a team approach. K. Lofgren echoed that, she found it particularly helpful, anything we can do to streamline communication. C. McKinney asked for 2 members to post an ad hoc meeting to develop a charter, something that was not done before. A show of hands for volunteers showed that A. Vervaeke, K. Lofgren, and K. Cowie volunteered.

C. McKinney stated that the Chair appoints P. Fitzgerald to the open spot on Budget and Finance. The Chair appoints K. Lofgren to the district health initiative (DHI). C. McKinney asked for volunteers for the liaison to the Groton Seniors. P. Fitzgerald volunteered.

MINUTES

F. O'CONNELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2005.

SECONDED BY K. COWIE.

In favor: C. Barrett, K. Cowie, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell, A. Vervaeke.

Against: none

Abstain: P. Fitzgerald

Approved 6:0:1

F. O'CONNELL MOVED TO APPROVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2005.

SECONDED BY K. K. COWIE.

In favor: C. Barrett, K. Cowie, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell, A. Vervaeke.

Against: none

Abstain: P. Fitzgerald

Approved 6:0:1

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

F. O'Connell notice tonight that the HS still looks like it is brand new. As a taxpayer he appreciates all of the pride shown by the administrators, teachers, and custodial staff.

K. Cowie recognized the middle school staff's wonderful new paint at MS S under the design guidance of B. Raucci.

PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSION

Naming Committee

B. Raucci spoke about the Naming Committee. B. Raucci said that as a member of the naming committee, again, we went through a process of how we will come to a process of how we will come to a name to bring to the school committee. Want the MS students to democratically come with the name. Want to teach the students how to use public libraries, give opportunities to speak publicly. It will be in an after school activity format. Also wants the student government to participate.

C. McKinney asked if there are any questions? He said to give all of the names their proper due and see what bubbles up from that.

A. Vervaeke said his only concern is that the process itself was to be determined by the superintendent, it has been modified; also some submissions that have been made in the past have disappeared. Finally, if you are going to add additional members, it is his idea that the superintendent and chair are members of standing committees, not ad hoc committees. He wants to get through this process as streamlined as possible.

C. McKinney asked A. Vervaeke to work with K. Cowie on this. C. McKinney said that K. Cowie is working with B. Magnuson to get all of the submissions. C. McKinney said in reference to the subcommittee, he and A. Genovese attended the meeting; they are not

members of the committee. A. Genovese said that he and C. McKinney attended the meeting and had discussion and departed.

C. Barrett asked if the MS students can research any name. B. Raucci replied yes. K. Cowie agreed, we don't want to limit names.

K. Cowie asked if we could have a motion to approve the process? A. Genovese asked K. Cowie can make a separate document that we could approve. K. Cowie replied that she would have the document for Oct 6.

Other

A. Genovese said that he should have stated this in announcements. He thanked Don Black for creating so many opportunities for A. Genovese to meet so many people.

A. Genovese asked if S. Rubel or J. Endicott had any items to bring to the community's attention?

S. Rubel said that MCAS results will be sent home next Monday via the mail for grades 3 through 10. A. Genovese noted that there were some issues with DOE stops and starts with the MCAS results; it [the delay] was not just in this district.

J. Endicott announced that the Pupil Personnel Office has a new program called eSPED that was launched Sept 1. Training was done with all SPED staff. Reports are that it is a very positive change, the old program was cumbersome. Hopes for a faster, better product. Still working out some of the bugs, would be interested in hearing back how it is going.

Smith House

C. McKinney introduced Don Black and said his name should be changed to Mr. 350th! C. McKinney said that D. Black was here to talk to us about the Smith House. D. Black thanked C. McKinney for his kind comments but said that there are lots of people on the 350th committee.

D. Black spoke on behalf of Don Smith and said that Don Smith was born on this [high school] property; his father owned a farm on this property. D. Smith has been a great friend to the town of Groton. He gave a bandstand, the Smith Social Pavilion. It took some time to get it built. D. Smith would like to renovate the Smith House to its original condition and he is willing to pay the costs to do so. D. Black said that they had a meeting with C. Young, A. Genovese, C. McKinney, and Steve Byrne a few weeks ago. D. Black said that they would renovate the original building and the L that was added, not the entire structure there today.

D. Black said that D. Smith is 96. Their primary conversation was with conservation. It would be a 2 year journey to move a part of land out of conservation. D. Smith is willing to do so. His mother lived to 103!

D. Black said that D. Smith would create a funded trust and an endowment to restore the building to his specs.

A. Vervaeke said that he spoke to S. Prendergast today. Their position is unless a definitive plan could be developed, they have already stated that the building should be razed. A. Vervaeke said we [building committee] have been in discussion about this for 14-15 months. We are no further along. They felt no need to re-vote the building committee position.

C. McKinney said that we have approx. \$30,000 dedicated to clean up the building. Also, the area around the house is environmentally sensitive and work can only be done on the site at certain times of the year.

A. Vervaeke said he thought that it could be razed this fall without environmental effect.

K. Cowie said that she had contacted Habitat for Humanity to look at the building.

D. Black said that ultimately D. Smith would like to see a museum farm. We have had preliminary discussion with the historic society. It is likely that the historic society would like to take it over.

A. Vervaeke said 1.) a process was discussed about taking land out of conservation-that needs to go to legislator, 2.) land was purchased by 2 towns, would have to give money back to one town if it was taken over by the other town. A. Vervaeke said he supported the idea in the past but now urges us to finalize the process.

C. McKinney asked if the primary issue is fear of safety issues and that the building committee primarily wants to clean it up? A. Vervaeke said they want to finalize the project, they don't think that this is the responsibility of the building committee that is why they want the school committee to decide.

A. Genovese said that A. Vervaeke is right, there is a whole process about land sale, etc that would be a fairly lengthy process. A. Genovese said he is talking off the top of his head, maybe restoration is not feasible, maybe a replication is feasible, you could use some of the original materials. Maintain integrity with blueprints, photos. Raze the buildings, reserve original materials. The district would have to sell the land, can't just transfer it. If there was a partnership you can form. To have a museum is not the purview of the school committee.

D. Black said that replication is D. Smith's second choice. D. Black said that he thought that the period when work could be done at the site is Oct1 through April/May.

K. Lofgren noted that this is not an all or nothing decision, cleaning up the property versus razing the structure.

A. Genovese asked can the house be moved to another site? D. Black did not know.

P. Fitzgerald said he would like to voice some support for the idea, 100 years from now we might really like to look back on this. Could a new committee be formed to handle it, take the original building committee off of it? Maybe the \$30,000 can be used.

Several others stated that the land cannot be transferred.

C. McKinney said that this is a quagmire for the building committee. C. McKinney has received more than one request to dissolve the building committee. We can't transfer the money; we can spend it or give it back to the towns. We can change how we handle the property with the building committee. The question is does the school committee want to leave the house standing for 2 more years?

K. Cowie said that we may have an opportunity to have a home instead of a museum. K. Cowie wants us to look at all options, not just one.

A. Vervaeke said to K. Cowie, that is well meaning but 2 towns have paid for the land, there is an unsafe structure, needs acts of legislature, acts of 2 towns. Affordable housing is not feasible for this site given all of that. The building committee can take care of the site, raze the building. Mr. Black and his group can recreate it. In the end, if the kids or vagrants are getting into that building, we do have a liability. It is at the end of the access road, people are hanging around there. It was stated that the windows have been boarded up with plywood but the plywood keeps being taken down.

C. McKinney said that the school committee has a letter that is about 1 year old asking [D. Smith] is there any information on written commitments on money or timeline.

D. Black said if the school committee is willing to work with D. Smith, Smith is willing to create a trust of approx. \$100,000 and will create an endowment fund. D. Black said of D. Smith, his numbers are realistic; he was in the lumber and building business.

C. McKinney said we talked that we want the land free of any conservation restriction. D. Black thinks we can move the building, clean the site, reclaim the area and put that to sleep.

P. Fitzgerald said he is unfamiliar with what the building committee has on their plate. Maybe let old members off and add new members. C. McKinney said there can be no transfer of funds or resources.

F. O'Connell said that in 15 minutes we are trying to have all conversations that have taken place over the last few years. Is it Mr. Smith's request to have it on this land? D. Black said we have not discussed it.

C. McKinney said that you have raised a point in the process. The Chair thinks that the vote needs to be brought to stop the razing of this property. C. McKinney said he liked the idea of a working farm museum.

K. Cowie asked a number of questions to clarify the vote.

A. Genovese answered that the building committee had X number of dollars to demolish the building, that is their charge. It has been 1 ½ years, they have hoped to have a plan. If the window to work on the site is Oct to May, set a 2 month limit. We have to handle the liability and policy issues.

D. Black said that he thinks that is a good suggestion, move as one piece or catalog and disassemble piece by piece.

A. Vervaeke said we [the building committee] have been contemplating this for 14-15 months. It is great that we re brainstorming. This has maintained itself as an outstanding issue. Do we take no action and allow the building committee to finish their charge? The building committee's charter was to build the HS, renovate the MS. A. Vervaeke said he wants to get the project finished. We can deal with the contractor who is going to do it. Get it done before we lose another window. We missed it last year.

C. McKinney asked about remobilizing the contractor. A. Vervaeke said that C. Young said that they can have it done this fall. C. McKinney said that these things always take longer and referenced the delay for the Prescott windows. A. Vervaeke said that he thinks that it must be done by the second week in December.

K. Cowie said that she agrees with A. Vervaeke, it is a hazard. Can we find someone to remove the house?

C. Barrett asked about the location of the piece of land. If we built an elementary school on this site is it impacted? C. McKinney said no but it is near the emergency access road and we would have to work out access. A. Vervaeke stated that it is not build-able, it is conservation land.

Groton Dunstable Education Foundation (GDEF)

Bobbi Lamont and Kristin Stone spoke.

K. Stone announced that the GDEF Fall Grant Cycle has begun. It is our fifth grant cycle, our third year in existence. Grants applications must be postmarked Nov 1. Please see our website www.gdefinc.org for more information. K. Stone said that Sharon Schmidt, Tessa David, and Connie Lapres are retiring Directors. Kerry Figgaro has been elected as secretary, Lauri Morgan as Treasurer, Bobbi Lamont as Vice President.

B. Lamont read the GDEF mission statement:
 The Groton Dunstable Education Foundation, Inc.
 is a volunteer non-profit organization committed to enhancing
 the success of our public schools by providing private funding
 for innovative, inspiring programs and opportunities.
 This community-driven foundation believes that
 each child deserves an excellent educational experience,
 and that supported and successful schools are fundamental elements
 of our special communities.

B. Lamont asked that people go to the website for more information and reminded people that grant applications must be postmarked Nov 1. B. Lamont said that at the Dec 7 meeting the new grant recipients will be announced.

School Committee Calendar

Topics for the school committee calendar were requested from each member in a round table fashion. A draft listing some required and suggested topics was provided to the school committee members.

A. Vervaeke:

- school councils
- budget presentation
- wants to see two-way discussion about block scheduling, wants updated presentation on status, is it fruitful, useful, justification, are we using it to its best advantage, what are alternatives. A. Genovese said that we could set aside 88 minutes to discuss it!

K. Lofgren:

- specific highlight on ECC since removal of kindergarten
- block scheduling, after last year she is not sure what it is, pros and cons
- MASC conference-let public know what we learned

K. Cowie:

- timing of HS graduation, time and date referenced to athletes who have reached state finals
- block scheduling-especially Integrated Arts portion of wellness and gym. Physical activity for half a year is unacceptable.

F.O'Connell:

- MS configuration plan
- district wide security
- facilities review, numbers, space, creative use of vacant space
- communication
- transition plan-want discussion of 2-3-4 things
- AYP MCAS- what are plans, action items

P. Fitzgerald:

- school committee goals and measurable objectives for the year
- superintendent goals and objectives
- Are they linked to the strategic plan?
- revisit old class size goals grade by grade by grade versus what the literature is telling us
- impact of NCLB on district requirements, cost

C. Barrett:

- TERC math, aligning the curriculum from elementary to MS

A. Vervaeke:

- Coordinated Program Review
- give SPED PAC opportunity to speak. Phil Campbell said it was so important for the transition from elementary to MS. How are we doing from a guidance, special ed point of view. How do we make sure records and IEP transitions smoothly?

K. Lofgren:

- noted that SPED PAC should present January or later
- football team presentation
- aligning the curriculum. A. Genovese asked is it vertical alignment or standardization across elementary?
- school councils. K. Lofgren said that she likes the school council presentations. A. Genovese noted that school committees no longer approve school improvement plans, the superintendent does. C. McKinney noted that for the past few years school councils did presentations on their plans.

K. Cowie:

- a very generalized overview, what are the expectations grade-to-grade, specific interest in MS and HS. A. Genovese said that it is important to look at K-12. A. Genovese said it is a systems approach.
- GDAY to share initiatives

P. Fitzgerald:

- what are we doing for gifted students at all grade levels

A. Vervaeke:

- visitation to a new elementary school, timeline, updated, refreshing look at sites

K. Cowie:

- feasibility of putting an elementary school on HS site

A. Vervaeke:

- litany of good news. A. Genovese said it has been renamed State of the District. A. Genovese said that he assumes we could codify that and make it available at town meetings.

ACTION ITEMS

School Physician

A. Genovese stated that Dr. Richard Staub has been the school physician for a number of years.

K. COWIE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT DR. RICHARD STAUB TO POSITION OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN FOR THE COMING YEAR.

SECONDED BY A.VERVAEKE.

A. Vervaeke asked is the appointment annual and is it required by law? A. Genovese replied yes. A. Vervaeke said it is the first time in 6 years that we have voted on it.

SO VOTED BY SHOW OF HANDS:

In favor: C. Barrett, K. Cowie, P. Fitzgerald, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell, A. Vervaeke

Against: none

Abstain: none

K. Lofgren asked if a roll call was necessary since money is involved. C. McKinney replied no because the money has already been allocated.

MOTION passes 7:0:0.

Supervisor of Attendance

A. Genovese said that the school committee must appoint a truant officer-attendance officer-supervisor of attendance, the name has changed over the years. A. Genovese said that both police chiefs agreed to accept this as part of their responsibilities. It will be delegated to the resource officer. The position is needed if help is needed to verify where students reside, if there is an attendance issue occasionally have to file paperwork.

K. COWIE MADE A MOTION TO APPOINT POLICE CHIEF ROBERT L. MULHERN OF GROTON AND POLICE CHIEF JAMES G. DOWNES III OF DUNSTABLE TO POSITION OF SUPERVISOR OF ATTENDANCE FOR THE COMING YEAR.

C. Barrett asked to amend the motion "or their designees".

K. Cowie agreed to the amendment.

SECONDED BY A.VERVAEKE.

SO VOTED BY SHOW OF HANDS:

In favor: C. Barrett, K. Cowie, P. Fitzgerald, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell, A. Vervaeke

Against: none

Abstain: none

MOTION passes 7:0:0.

CONNECT-ED

A. Genovese referenced the CONNECT-ED presentation made 09/07/05. He has heard from the committee and from the public that communication needs to be improved. He said that communication is more than CONNECT-ED, press releases, newsletters, personal phone calls.

A. Genovese said that he would like to present it in a format not as an initiative to be done every year but as a pilot program. A way to re-connect with parents, a way for them to connect with schools. A nice feature that goes to accountability, the program is 12 months Oct to Oct. It can be used by school committee and staff, we will get a full 12 month cycle. Near the end we can put the survey out-should we continue the program or not. It is data driven. A. Genovese would want the school committee to revisit that.

A. Genovese discussed the funding source-what source of funding would not reduce the principals' budgets?

1. The Groton [School] Gift of \$10,000. There is \$3,800 balance, propose to use \$3,300.

C. Barrett asked if this is the gift from the Groton School? Yes.

A. Genovese said the Groton School gift is managed by the town accountant, Valerie said this use fits the intended use.

2. School Choice-propose to use \$9,000. There is \$59,000 in there. \$30,000 has been designated for FY06.

A. Genovese said the CONNECT-ED program can invite people to look at new initiatives, it is really catering to parents. Improve on the communication that you have in place and try something new. It is a 3 year contract but you can opt out.

A.VERVAEKE MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE \$12,546 FOR A CONTRACT WITH NOTIFICATION TECHNOLOGIES INC. TO SUPPORT A SUBSIDIZED CONTRACT WITH CONNECT-ED FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.

A. Vervaeke amended his motion:

**A.VERVAEKE MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE APPROVE AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$12,546 FOR A CONTRACT WITH NOTIFICATION TECHNOLOGIES INC. TO SUPPORT A SUBSIDIZED CONTRACT WITH CONNECT-ED FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT.
SECONDED BY F'O'CONNELL.**

A. Genovese explained that we would not have a sponsor for the first year. A. Genovese explained that because it is less than \$25,000 we could take it off the state bid list. There is a fee to take an item off of the state bid list. F. O'Connell asked what if the ASAP fee? A. Genovese said that is the state fee.

K. Cowie made a policy note-the policy committee needs to review the sponsorship/advertising in school policy. C. McKinney said that he would like to amplify the comment that an affirmative vote means we need to reconcile policy and acceptance of a sponsor. A. Genovese said that he will not approve a sponsor without our approval.

C. Barrett asked about the use of school choice money, isn't that part of our revenue? A. Genovese said that school choice money can be used for a number of things. A. Genovese said that you want some money saved up to be used in case students leave our district and choice out. C. Barrett asked about the quarterly report and thought that school choice was listed as revenue. C. McKinney said charter school is listed as revenue. A. Genovese said that school choice is a revenue source and it is set up in a separate revolving account. Some school choice money can be transferred into the general fund and be used to pay bills.

A. Vervaeke said that regarding the gift from the Groton School, we spent so much time discussing the sound system versus the math software. If it was never spent, why didn't it come back to us? A. Vervaeke really thought spending on libraries was a really good use. We could have spent this money months ago. A. Vervaeke is disappointed and frustrated with this particular piece of the fiscal process.

C. Barrett asked about iSTAFF and iPARENT, part of the iPASS software package, asking if CONNECT-ED made these redundant. S. Rubel knows about iSTAFF, it is for HR, need to track staff development. S. Rubel said that she does not know about iPARENT. C. Barrett asked that the iPARENT software be examined before it is purchased to be sure it is not redundant with CONNECT-ED.

SO VOTED BY ROLL CALL: C. Barrett, yes; K. Cowie, yes; P. Fitzgerald, yes; K. Lofgren, yes; C. McKinney, yes; F. O'Connell, yes; A. Vervaeke, yes.

MOTION passes 7:0:0.

Smith House

C. McKinney wants to see if

1) instruct the building committee to proceed and communicate the timeline so that Mr. Smith and Mr. Black could do it.

Or 2) instruct the building committee to proceed as they have planned

A.VERVAEKE MOVED THAT THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TAKE NO ACTION ON THE PROPOSAL AND MOVE IT BACK TO THE BUILDING COMMITTEE WITH PREJUDICE AND THAT THE SUPERINTENDENT AND BUSINESS MANAGER MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH MR. SMITH AND MR. BLACK TO COMMUNICATE THE TIMELINE.

SECONDED BY F.O'CONNELL.

C. McKinney asked A. Vervaeke to explain what an affirmative meant. A. Vervaeke said that the contractor would be contacted to raze the building and clean the site and that Mr. Smith and Mr. Black must move or dismantle the building and take it from the site before the contractor comes to raze the building and clean the site. A. Genovese clarified that given a certain date that the contractor must start on that date.

K. Cowie agreed with A. Vervaeke, the building needs to be gone. K. Cowie wants to amend the motion by adding "or other interested parties".

A. Vervaeke wants to decline the amendment. We have talked about this proposal for a number of months. No one is going to come in at this time. A. Genovese said that he likes it as it allows for a third party. The group discussed this could be someone working with Smith versus an unknown group.

C. McKinney asked K. Cowie if she wanted to move to amend the motion.

**K. COWIE MADE A MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION AS STATED ABOVE.
SECONDED BY C. BARRETT.**

C. Barrett asked if it should be stated that the third party must work with Mr. Smith, not against him, it should be clear. A. Vervaeke detailed the amount of press this topic has received, no one has come forward. C. McKinney said to K. Cowie that your motion does create a competitive situation. F.O'Connell said that as much as he would like to see Mr. Smith's wishes, the building committee must proceed. K. Lofgren said that as a member of the building committee, we have given this topic considerable time, sought out every possible solution. K. Lofgren said that she will not support K. Cowie's amendment.

A. Genovese asked K. Cowie if she would like to withdraw her motion to amend? K. Cowie replied no.

SO VOTED BY SHOW OF HANDS:

In favor: K. Cowie

Against: C. Barrett, P. Fitzgerald, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell

Abstain: A. Vervaeke

MOTION TO AMEND THE MOTION FAILS 1:5:1.

In returning to the main motion, C. McKinney asked Mr. Black if he had any news. Mr. Black said that he had called Mr. Smith and that he is in favor of moving the building.

SO VOTED BY SHOW OF HANDS:

In favor: C. Barrett, P. Fitzgerald, K. Lofgren, C. McKinney, F. O'Connell, A. Vervaeke

Against: none

Abstain: K. Cowie

MAIN MOTION PASSES 6:0:1.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

A. Genovese presented a peace plant to P. Fitzgerald. The tradition is that it is a lot of hard work that goes into the school committee. The plant represents growth, nurture, respect. A. Vervaeke added that it is a peace lily.

C. Barrett asked for clarification from the committee-was A. Vervaeke's main motion seconded? C. McKinney said that F. O'Connell had seconded it. C. Barrett apologized for the confusion.

Jeff Wilson from West Groton said that he is not an attorney but if you pick up a house and move it, it is no longer real estate, it is then personal property. So value and liability issues to the school district will disappear. He said there is also an issue if you do not attach the house to the land.

A. Vervaeke made reference to the staff calendar handout. He said that November was his least favorite month of the year, there is no full week of school. He hears lots of complaints from parents, including his own house. Is it really necessary? When he was a kid parent conferences were held at night. We know what kind of trouble kids can get into. Can we modify this calendar in future years?

ADJOURNMENT

A. VERVAEKE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT APPROXIMATELY
9: 56 PM.

SECONDED BY K. LOFGREN.

SO VOTED IN FAVOR UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Barrett, School Committee Secretary