

MINUTES MARCH
MONHEGAN SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Monday, **March 27**, 2023

Monhegan Library & via Zoom

Present: Committee Chair Jes Stevens, Secretary Daphne Pulsifer

Present Virtually (link below): Treasurer Felicia Dunson, Supt. Tonya Arnold, Teacher Kaitlyn O'Donnell, Business Manager Belinda Waterhouse, Monhegan Plantation Municipal Administrator Carley Feibusch.

Call to Order 3:40 pm

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve MINUTES of 02/27/23 as read. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

Add Update on Boat Schedule to Logistics at end of meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS

No comments or questions at this time

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT was received.

TEACHER'S REPORT was received.

On April 29th Committee Members will help Kaitlyn with cleaning and organizing things inside the school. (Don't forget to save some boxes for things that will be packed up for disposal or donation somewhere inshore. 😊)

Discussion followed about Graduation Traditions and expectations so that the Teacher can begin preparing for Graduation Day this June.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Ken Stevenson, the new TLC Coordinator, has been added to the school directory. He has been enthusiastically engaging with the teacher since January and is looking to come to the island this spring to meet the community.

There is a need to connect with Brian Barrows regarding the wifi upgrade.

Work has been done updating Policy files.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on Teacher Search Process: The Teacher Search Committee has been oriented.

The next meeting is 03-28-23. An interview with a prospective teacher is expected at that meeting. There have been fewer applications than might be expected, but there is currently a teacher shortage nationwide and in the State of Maine other schools are seeing very few applications for available positions.

NEW BUSINESS

The Committee will meet sometime soon to consider where on the school grounds the Garden Cart should be placed.

FINANCIAL

1. TABLED “Presentation of School Audit 2021-22 School Year by Fred Brewer”
2. TABLED “Vote to accept School Audit as presented by Auditor Fred Brewer for 2021-22 School Year.”

Tonya Arnold applied today for DOE to grant an Audit Extension from 3/31/23 to 4/30/23 due to audit delay.

3. Carley Feibusch reports that the Town Report, with School Budget information and Warrants, are being printed now for the Plantation Meeting in April.
4. Business Manager & Treasurer’s Reports:

Social Security was not deducted from Committee member’s annual stipend. Committee Members will reimburse the Plantation for the payments that were made on their behalf.

\$11,000 is included on this Warrant for the deposit into the Secondary Tuition Reserve Account. This amount was approved by the Town in 2022 to offset future anticipated secondary school tuition payments.

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve transferring the Youth Arts Initiative funds at Camden National Bank from a checking account to a savings account. Second Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

REAP Accounts have been added to Google Drive.

Review of Financials.

5. VOTE ON WARRANTS
 - a. Jes Stevens made a motion to approve EDU 09 - PR in the amount of \$18,925.09. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
 - b. Daphne Pulsifer made a motion to approve EDU 09 - AP in the amount of \$15,083.89, with \$324.16 of that total paid with REAP funds. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
6. REAP Accounts were reviewed

Recess 5:05 pm for fifteen minutes.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Schoolhouse
 - a. School Floor Refinishing: Because the floors are showing considerable wear and students have gotten splinters, the floors should be refinished. Daphne Pulsifer has a basic estimate from Jeff Yeaton of Mr. Sandless in New Hampshire. Information available on the Mr. Sandless website, www.mrsandless.com, was discussed. Daphne will follow up with questions to Jeff Yeaton. Jes Stevens will reach out to some area school facilities managers about their experience with different approaches to floor refinishing.
 - b. Lawn Mowing: Travis Dow confirms that he will mow at the Schoolhouse again this summer at the same rate as last year.
 - c. Septic Field Clearing & Invasive Plant Removal:

There is money available in the 2022-23 Budget (and included in the 2023-24 Proposed School Budget) for hiring someone to do this work.

- d. Jes Stevens plans to coordinate with the teacher to help with the flower garden in front of the school.
2. Teacher House Property
 - a. Lawn Mowing: Travis Dow confirms that he will mow at the Teacher House properties again this summer at the same rate as last year.
 - b. Yard Work & Invasive Plant Removal: Everyone is encouraged to keep in mind the need to hire someone to do a clean-up of the yard at the Teacher House. If someone in town is available to do yard work, the School Committee will make arrangements with them. Discussion followed regarding the possibility of renting the Teacher House in July.
Jes will set up a meeting for the Committee to review maintenance needs and plans for the Teacher House and Little Teacher House. Suggested dates for this meeting are April 5 or 6.

POLICY

- Motion by Jes Stevens to approve review for elimination Policy ADB - Drug/Alcohol Use and Possess. Second by Daphne Pulsifer. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Daphne Pulsifer to approve first reading and review for adoption Policy GBEC - Drug-free Workplace. Second by Jes Stevens. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Jes Stevens to approve first reading and revisions to Policy JIC - Monhegan School Student Code of Conduct. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Jes Stevens to approve first reading and revisions to Policy JICIA - Weapons, Violence and School Safety. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Jes STEvens to approve first reading of Policy JICH - Drug and Alcohol Use by Students. Second by Daphne Pulsifer. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Jes Stevens to approve first reading and revisions to Policy JKD - Suspension of Students. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.
- Motion by Felicia Dunson to accept first reading and proposed revisions to Policy LB - Secondary School Tuition, Room and Board, and Other Expenses. Second by Daphne Pulsifer. Motion passed by roll call vote with two in favor and Jes Stevens abstained from vote. Proposed changes to this policy are related to “insured value factor” and “debt service factor” referenced in Chapter 219 of Maine Statute 20-A.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETINGS & STAFF VISIT(S)

- A. Next Regular Meeting: Mon., April 24, 2023, 3:30 pm, Location TBD & Zoom
- B. Logistics (inc. charters, hosting, and phone/video conferencing)
The boat line calendar is now on their website. In April the boat will run Monday, Wednesday, Friday. Daily runs begin in May.

Adjourned 8:03pm

Respectfully submitted by
Daphne Pulsifer
Secretary

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81247831308?pwd=SFROb3E5ZHFOdUxadDRkanpFNUQzQT09>

Meeting ID: 812 4783 1308, Passcode: 252588

One tap mobile

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*+13126266799,,81247831308#,,, *252588# US (Chicago)*

Back Up Zoom Link:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/8698799458?pwd=OE9PSXRST3IyYzY5RnZoVE9wUkUxZz09>

Meeting ID: 869 879 9458 Passcode: 7GKS98