

APRIL MONHEGAN SCHOOL COMMITTEE REGULAR MEETING

Sunday, **APRIL 28**, 2024, scheduled for 1:30 pm, Monhegan Schoolhouse & via Zoom.

Present: Chairman Jes Stevens, Treasurer Felicia Dunson, Secretary Daphne Pulsifer, Lead Teacher Terry Wood.

Present via Zoom: Superintendent Tonya Arnold, Business Manager Belinda Waterhouse

Called to Order at 1:47 pm.

MINUTES: There was a brief discussion of minor changes to minutes.

Motion by Felicia Dunson to accept minutes of 03/25/24 as revised. Second by Jes Stevens.

Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Felicia Dunson to accept minutes for 04/23/24 - Special Meeting for Teacher House Property as revised. Second by Jes Stevens. Motion passed unanimously.

CHANGES TO AGENDA: "Community Chairs" was added to Old Business.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS: none

SUPERINTENDENT'S written REPORT was received and briefly discussed.

The position of Ed Tech III for the 24/25 school year has been posted.

TEACHER'S written REPORT was received and briefly discussed.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT:

The school calendar has been updated on the website.

Books that had been selected for removal from the School Library and put in temporary storage in the Freight Shed were taken inshore after the January storm that damaged the freight shed. Jes gave the books in poor condition to Rockland Library to include in their bag sale to benefit the library. She took the books in good condition to Hello Hello Books in Rockland. An account was established there and the school was given a credit in exchange for the books that can be used to buy other books.

A new filing system for school charters has been created to improve access to required boat charter documentation by the school administration.

We have received four checks for Schoolhouse rentals for this summer. One payment from 2023 is still outstanding.

FINANCIAL

1. Annual Town Meeting Update

All Warrant Articles passed, as read. There were no amendments.

Felicia Dunson was elected for a new term ending June 2027. (Thank you Felicia.)

Jes Stevens publicly announced her intention to end her service to the School Committee at the end of her term, June 2025. (Thank you Jes for your Amazing service!!)

2. Business Manager's written Report was received.

- a. Audit Updates: Fred will be asked to present the audit at the May 20th meeting. If he can not present in May, Business Manager suggests we file for another extension through June.

- b. All Financial spreadsheets were reviewed and discussed. The Warrant includes three pay periods.

3. VOTE ON WARRANTS

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve Warrant EDU 10 - PR in the amount of \$15,373.21. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Daphne Pulsifer to approve Warrant EDU 10 - AP in the amount of \$9,231.85, with \$1,545.69 of that total paid from the REAP Account. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

4. The Town approved by vote the continued support of the school's participation in the Outer Islands Teaching and Learning Collaborative. The Committee anticipates expending the amount of \$4,000.00 to the TLC for the 24-25 school year. REAP funds will be available to pay this. The teacher noted the many benefits of the TLC for her and the students, including weekly Zoom meetings for island teachers and Friday morning Exercise with all the participating island students. The Zoom activities enrich the school day and help everyone get to know each other in ways that make the in person field trips more meaningful.
5. Jes will request a budget from TLC and inquire about an Advisory group meeting.

Recess from 3:21 pm to 3:40 pm.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

1. Schoolhouse
 - a. Phone Service - Update: The phone currently is working. Jes has reached out to Consolidated Communications regarding the placement of a new pole on the school grounds.
 - b. There is a new school process in place for managing the drinking water and solid waste. Bottled water, trash bags and cardboard stickers for recycling are all purchased at the store. The new system will track these expenses.
 - c. Chairman will be sending water samples from the schoolhouse, the Teacher's House and LTH for comprehensive & lead testing.
 - d. Internet Service - Update: Axiom expects to launch in a couple of weeks. Brian Barrows will be called to help with transitioning to Axiom.
2. Teacher House Property - Teacher House Property Planning & Budgeting Workshop took place 4/12/24 and there was a Special Meeting for Teacher House on 4/23/24.
3. Tenants can move into LTH May 1. Jes Stevens will make copies as needed of the LTH key.
4. Daphne Pulsifer will look for a locking door knob for the Teacher House.

POLICY

Motion by Jes Stevens to approve policy KFB Use of the Schoolhouse as reviewed today. Second by Felicia Dunson. Motion passed unanimously.

There was a brief discussion of plans for review of the Comprehensive Emergency Plan.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Insurance Coverage was discussed:
 - a. Board Liability Insurance: Superintendent will check this coverage.
 - b. Property & Casualty: The Schoolhouse and Teacher House properties are covered under the Town insurance policy, which covers all town infrastructure. Replacement cost for the schoolhouse needs to be considered before the Town policy is renewed. Superintendent reports that school construction costs in the state are typically around \$350 per square foot. Replacement cost for the Monhegan Schoolhouse would be approximately \$700,000. Chairman will communicate with the Town Manager about updating the Town insurance policy.
 - c. Health Insurance: Increase of 6.5% for premiums is within our approved budget.
 - d. Device Insurance: This policy covers devices when they leave the schoolhouse. Chairman has requested a quote for renewal of the policy. Renewal is scheduled for October.
2. Community Chairs: The School Committee has managed the Community Chairs. The old chairs are still being stored in the basement of the Teacher's House and the Freight Shed. Felicia Dunson is communicating with someone who has an interest in helping the Committee auction the old chairs. Felicia will see if this person can appraise the chairs.

NEW BUSINESS

1. There are no new Secondary School Room & Board Requests.
2. Chairman will follow up on the Superintendent Employment Agreement Annual Salary Notification.

SCHEDULE NEXT MEETINGS & STAFF VISIT(S)

- A. Next Teacher House Property Special Meeting: June 18, 4:00 pm. Meeting location TBD.
- B. Next Regular Meeting: Mon., May 20, 2024, 12:30 pm, Library & Zoom
- C. Logistics: Superintendent Tonya Arnold plans to come to the island on the 10:30am ferry from Port Clyde, Sunday May 19, and stay for the regular May meeting. She plans to leave the island on the 4:30pm ferry Monday, May 20th.

Motion by Jes Stevens to adjourn. Second by Daphne Pulsifer. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Daphne Pulsifer
Secretary

Join Zoom Meeting:

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

Meeting ID: 812 4783 1308, Passcode: 252588

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,81247831308#,,, *252588# US (Washington DC)

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

Back Up Zoom Link:

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

Meeting ID: 869 879 9458 Passcode: 7GKS98