

MARTHA’S VINEYARD REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL (MVRHS)/ *Special Meeting*
School Committee Meeting
Friday, June 3, 2022 at 12:00 pm
Zoom Meeting

Present: Chair – Amy Houghton, Roxanne Ackerman, Kimberly Kirk, Robert Lionette, Skipper Manter, Kris O’Brien, Louis Paciello, Kathryn Shertzer, Michael Watts
Staff: Coordinator of Pathways and Special Projects – Samuel Hart, Finance Director – Suzanne Cioffi, Athletic Director – Mark McCarthy
MVEA Martha’s Vineyard Educators Association (MVEA) Co-president – Nedine Cunningham
Supt.’s Office: School Business Administrator – Mark Friedman
Towns/County: Tisbury – Mary Ellen Larsen
Press: MV Times – Lucas Thors, Vineyard Gazette – Louisa Hufstader, WCAI – Eve Zuckoff
Recorder: Teresa Kruszewski *Late arrivals or early departures of MVRHS SC members (see * in text)

Call to Order:

The meeting of the Martha’s Vineyard Regional High School School Committee (MVRHSSC) was called to order at 12:08 PM by Chair Amy Houghton. The meeting was recorded; video cameras were asked to be turned off except for MVRHSC members or Administrators or when actively participating; attendees were asked to identify themselves with first and last names. *(Recorder’s Note: Discussions are summarized and grouped for clarity and brevity).*

Welcome - Chair:

(Agenda Item #I)

Chair Houghton said this special meeting was scheduled for the sole purpose of addressing a need to rescind a vote for Special Counsel. *(Please see document on file for details: Minutes MVRHS SC May 23 Special Meeting.pdf, pg 3, Special Counsel)*
A technical glitch was encountered at 12:10 PM; the recording stopped; all discussion was paused; the meeting resumed at 12:13 PM when the recording issue was resolved.

Track and Field Project; Rescind and Re-vote Counsel

(Agenda Item #II)

SKIPPER MANTER MOVED TO RESCIND THE AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE ATTORNEY MARK BOBROWSKI OF BLATMAN, BOBROWSKI, HAVERTY & SILVERSTEIN; KRIS O’BRIEN SECONDED. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY: 9 AYES, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. ACKERMAN—AYE, MS. HOUGHTON—AYE, MS. KIRK—AYE, MR. LIONETTE—AYE, MR. MANTER—AYE, MS. O’BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE.

Members discussed the issues and urgency of meeting the deadline of June 3, 2022 to file the appeal. *(Please see document on file for details: Minutes MVRHS SC May 23 Special Meeting.pdf, pg 3, Special Counsel, para 2)*

Concerns were raised that new counsel had not been identified; time was of the essence; transparency of the process was important; a realistic estimate should be set, a financial amount acceptable for the process.

Kimberly Kirk said she had just spoken with School District Counsel Peter Sumners of Murphy, Lamere & Murphy, PC; he advised using the firm Mead, Talerman & Costa, LLC, which would have the same terms and hourly rate of Attorney Mark Bobrowski Of Blatman, Bobrowski, Haverty & Silverstein; the conflict of interest check had been completed.

Comments/Others:

Samuel Hart clarified that he expressed his point of view as one MVRHS administrator. He was concerned the collateral damage from this appeal process could impact the momentum as the towns were coming together for The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) process. Was the victory in the moment worth the cost to the larger picture?

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Geraldine Brooks, a citizen of West Tisbury and parent of two athletes, said we had an alternative: there could have been new state-of-the-art grass fields by now; how long was this going to go on?

KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO AUTHORIZE KIMBERLY KIRK AND KRIS O'BRIEN TO PREPARE AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER FOR MEAD, TALERMAN & COSTA, LLC TO PURSUE THE APPEAL OF THE OAK BLUFFS SPECIAL PERMIT DENIAL; LOUIS PACIELLO SECONDED; MOTION PASSED: 5 AYES, 4 NAYS, 0 ABSTENTIONS. MS. KIRK—AYE, MS. O'BRIEN—AYE, MR. PACIELLO—AYE, MS. SHERTZER—AYE & MR. WATTS—AYE. MS. ACKERMAN—NAY, MS. HOUGHTON—NAY, MR. LIONETTE—NAY AND MR. MANTER—NAY.

Kris O'Brien asked the Committee how progress reports should be delivered, as that had not been decided; Chair Houghton recommended discussing this at the meeting scheduled for Monday, June 6, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Adjournment: (Agenda Item #III)
KRIS O'BRIEN MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MVRHSSC MEETING; SKIPPER MANTER SECONDED; THE MEETING UNANIMOUSLY ADJOURNED AT 12:42 PM.

Documents on File:

- 1) Agenda MVRHS SC 6.3.22.pdf
- 2) participants_87662586340 (5).csv
- 3) CANCELED MVRHSSC Thursday 6 PM (email).pdf
- 4) Agenda MVRHS SC 6.2.22.pdf

Respectfully submitted,



Teresa Kruszewski – Recorder

September 12, 2022

Date

Amy Houghton – MVRHSC Chair

Date

Matthew D'Andrea – MVRHSD Superintendent

Date

APPROVED SEPTEMBER 12, 2022