

Pre-Referendum High School Consolidation Committee

Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2012

A meeting of the Pre-Referendum High School Consolidation Committee was held at Enfield High School Library, located at 1264 Enfield Street, Enfield, CT on April 5, 2012.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Randy Daigle.

2. **ROLL CALL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Judy Apruzzese-Desroches, Brien Brown, Randy Daigle, Pat Droney, Wendy Osada, Bill Schultz (arrived 7:22)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Maureen Brennan, John Dague, Steve Sargalski

**ALSO PRESENT:** Kyle Kalagher (arrived 8:35), Tina LeBlanc, Ian Lempitsky, Art Pongratz, Genaro Sepulveda. Silver/Petrucci & Associates – Dean Petrucci, Chris Nordi.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to accept March 29, 2012 meeting minutes by Judy Apruzzese-Desroches

Seconded by Wendy Osada

**Motion to accept minutes of March 29, 2012 passes by a show of hands**

**Abstained by Pat Droney and Ian Lempitsky**

4. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Discussion of Community Conversation. Randy states he sent an email to Dr. Gallacher apologizing for

not verifying that his email went out (to Dr. Gallacher). It never left Randy's outbox. He apologized that his request for the students to take home a flyer was never received by Dr. Gallacher.

Randy states in regards to the Community Conversation, Pat has an email that Maureen has sent since she could not be here tonight. In her email she states in regards to the public meeting she was told that some people did see it in the Journal Inquirer. Pat states he personally saw it in the on-line version of the JI. She continues in her email that she feels bad about the email error. Her opinion is that the attendance should have been better regardless of the publicity. There was plenty of information out there that people should have known about.

Pat states he was shocked that there were only about 22 people there.

Wendy states there were about 15 that were Town Council and Board of Education members. Parents of kids sitting on the committee were in the audience.

Judy states that general community members including the parents of our 2 student reps was about 17.  
The rest was staff from school or from the TC/BOE.

Randy states that he would like to commend the women that were there on asking the questions. I applaud them for asking questions. They first came in and stated they were sorry for asking so many questions and he (Randy responded) don't be, by you asking the questions and us giving the answers, people who are sitting at home are now getting an answer. As we all feel, the more people, the more questions, the more answers.

Pat states he apologizes for not being able to make the public forum due to a work commitment.

Judy states she had a hard time hearing a lot of it. The acoustics were bad from where she was sitting. Some of the questions I did hear were questions that this committee cannot address: The transition, the band program. That has nothing to do with us. It does in the general sense. Not this committee with the charge that we have. I'm not sure they understand what our role is. At the next community conversation we may want to start out reiterating what our charge is. If there is a band program or not, we can't address that. The pre-referendum committee is to put the building together. It is not to

determine the curriculum.

Randy states one thing we will be doing is when the web site comes up, is to put our actual charge up so they do know. The more information the better. They need to ask those questions. If we're not the ones to answer them, we will try our best to find the answers. The more facts we have to post on the website then if someone is curious, they know where to look.

Judy states that we need to direct them to the right people. They need to ask the town council or board of education.

Wendy states we opened the door from some of the comments on the Powerpoint presentation. We made references to being able to expand programs, curriculum and graduation requirements.

Randy states we have the opportunity to show the options that could be available.

Judy states our decision is not definitive.

Randy states that this is the first phase, the second phase is when it is in stone.

Pat continues with Maureen's email, she feels at the next meeting we will have more details and concepts for people to see. She also feels we need to set the meeting date tonight if possible, and begin publicizing it. Including that the architect's plans will be seen and explained. The second meeting should be the architects giving a presentation and dislocation of students with the idea that it would be kept to as minimum as possible. We should take input from the public on what they want added or taken out. The third meeting should be to indulge the public with what the referendum will be and the proposed building.

Wendy states she will help with the advertising. She is willing to assist Randy.

Randy states that this process goes through the Town Manager's office. You can follow-up.

Judy states that once it is out she can call to follow up.

Art asks Wendy if she can help with the development of the website. He looked at other websites in town to see how they are set up.

Wendy asks if there is a website designer to work with.

Art states that the Town Manager's office will help.

Wendy states she is willing to help with the website.

Randy asks if there is any other discussion regarding the community conversation.

Update on Website. Randy states we just touched on that topic.

Art states he met with Scott St. Onge and trying to come up with a catchy URL address.

Randy asks if anyone has any suggestions to please forward them.

Brien suggests 'NEW EHS'

Wendy suggests 'Enfield Students First'

Judy states you have to be careful calling it Enfield High School. People may say that 'you named it

already’.

Randy suggests ‘21<sup>st</sup> century’. We need to brainstorm. Something about the kids, next step, the future, We’re open. We’ll table that one. We can come up with some suggestions. Randy states he will contact him and set up a date.

Art states it could be next week. Call Town Manager’s office.

Randy states he went on the HTTP site and forgot one letter and got no response. We have to have the letter ‘s’ on the end. (secured).

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**5. NEW BUSINESS:**

Architect Report. Planned Additions and Use of Space: The architect gave a report on what they have accomplished to date with the conceptual floor plan and addition. All documents presented are filed in the Town Manager’s office.

**Motion made by Judy Apruzzese-Desroches for Silver Petrucelli to provide a Professional Cost Estimate for the Combined High School Project**

**Seconded by Pat Droney**

**Motion passes by a show of hands**

Randy suggests setting a date for the Community Conversation. Date set for:

Tuesday, May 1, 2012

6:00 – Library (committee meets)

7:00 – EHS Auditorium for Community Conversation

User Group Comments: No comments

Liaisons Comments: No comments

**6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS**

Pat states that Maureen asks if the committee would entertain holding a Saturday morning coffee hour. Possibly on the 14<sup>th</sup>?

Judy states we may be able to do that on the last Community Conversation.

**7. GOOD TO THE ORDER**

Kyle states that FHS track meet won. Played Hartford.

Robert is in Spain.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn by Judy Apruzzese-Desroches**

**Seconded by Wendy Osada**

**Motion Passes by a show of hands**

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM