

*RSU #14 Withdrawal  
Committee  
401 Webbs Mills Rd  
Raymond ME 04071*

**June 24, 2019  
6:00pm  
Broadcast Studio  
423 Webbs Mills Rd  
Minutes**

Members:

- Rolf Olsen, Select Board Rep, Chair
- Teresa Sadak, Proponent Rep
- Katie Leveille, RSU #14 Board of Directors Rep
- Joe Bruno, Citizen Rep

Consultants:

- Dr. Mark Eastman, Retired Superintendent and Educational Consultant
- Dan Stockford, Attorney

1) **Called to order** at 6:00pm by Chair Olsen

2) **Approval of Previous Meeting(s) Minutes**

a) May 28, 2019

**Motion** to approve as presented by Mrs Sadak. Seconded by Mr Bruno.

**Unanimously approved.**

3) **Consider Applicants for Sub-Committees**

Chair Olsen – We have a couple of people here who are interested in sub-committees and the following from the website: Jim Martin, Walter Lunt, Marshall Bullock

Mrs Sadak – Kevin Oliver is interested in the budget and finances.

Ms Leveille – Karina Beneke and Heather Freeman also expressed an interest. The sign needs to be clearer for the sub-committees. Maybe just point them to the website.

Town Clerk Look – I will correct the sign.

Chair Olsen – One of the ones that needs attention now is Staffing and Educational Programs. What are we doing well, what would we like to do differently or new, etc. Another is Technology. Policies and Procedures should be fairly straightforward as we will be getting most of these from the RSU. We also have Contract Services and Administration and the “One Raymond” approach to integrate the school and the Town. Teresa will be heading this up. Kate is in charge of Programs and Service, Joe is working on the withdrawal negotiations with Mark and Dan, and Marshall is working on the draft budget with Mark.

Susan Brackett – Are you looking for people on both sides?

Chair Olsen – We are looking at this as a blank slate. If we do this, what would we want it to look like? This means that it does not matter if someone is for or against. Some of the questions to consider are:

- Since Windham does not want to send students here, are we deficient?
- If we are, what can be corrected?
- If not, why are they unwilling Windham send students here?
- Are there things we should do differently to benefit the students?

Mrs Sadak – Our job now is to start with a clean slate and see what a Raymond school could look like and what would it cost. It will still be up to the Town to decide whether or not we withdraw. People want to know numbers and see what it would be without the RSU. You can be against the withdrawal and still contribute on the sub-committees. We still have to present everything to the Town.

Susan Brackett – I am interested in the first one you said. My quandary is that I am not for the separation. What type of commitment would it be to get on one of these committees?

Chair Olsen – You are not looking at hours and hours per week. If the vote ultimately said, “No.” the work that you put in is not in vain. If you came up with potential changes, they would be sent to the RSU #14 Board.

Ms Leveille – I am not for the withdrawal. I am trying to look at it through the lens that we need to give the students the best option. I think your view would be great because we would not want to lose the resources for both staff and students that we currently have.

Anna Keeney – I did not come to sign up for a committee, but to see what the need is and mull it over a bit. The last time I came in pro-withdrawal and left against withdrawal, so it is all in the research.

Chair Olsen – When you do decide you can let us know via the website.

Ms Brackett – I think Heather would be better in Programs, and I do not know what Karina was thinking.

Chair Olsen – If you would send me her contact information...

Ms Leveille – I think tonight we are competing against an 80-degree day and kids are out of school. I don't know how well the word got out. I blasted it out to the PTO.

Ms Brackett – I happened to see it on the sign and the PTO website. I think getting the word out is an issue.

Chair Olsen – How do you get your information?

Ms Brackett – From the PTO Facebook page. Is there a Withdrawal Facebook page that people could like and get information?

Mrs Sadak – We did not because we were worried about who would have the time to post to it and keep it up-to-date. We did a small communications survey.

Ms Brackett – I see that there are meetings on the sign, but I don't know if they are open or closed.

Chair Olsen – Since we are still negotiating the withdrawal agreement, we need to have executive sessions.

Mrs Sadak – Let’s leave all meetings like this with a workshop in the beginning and then executive session.

Town Clerk Look – What I do plan to do operationally is to put Executive Session Only on the sign for any meeting that is strictly executive session.

Ms Leveille – Can the link to the RSU Withdrawal on the website be more prominent? I think it is hard for people to find. No one wants to look for anything.

Town Clerk Look – I can talk with Kevin to see if there is something we can do. Today people are past Facebook and Twitter. To have someone who could stay up on how people are getting their information and news that would be “fed” to them instead of having them come and look for it seems to be the way our society is going. We don’t have the staff to do that.

Chair Olsen – I will get a hold of the folks who filled out the online to see what they are interested in. We have some good applicants.

#### 4) Executive Session

- a) Executive Session to consult with the Committee’s Attorney pursuant to 1 MRSA §405 (6)(E)

**Motion** to enter executive session at 6:21pm per above by Mrs Sadak. Seconded by Mr Bruno.

**Unanimously approved.**

**Motion** to leave executive session by Mr Bruno. Seconded by Mrs Sadak.

**Unanimously approved.**

**Motion** to have Dan present the agreement with the changes we discussed by Chair Olsen. Seconded by Mrs Sadak.

**Unanimously approved.**

#### 5) Adjournment

**Motion** to adjourn at 7:30pm by Mrs Sadak. Seconded by Mr Bruno.

**Unanimously approved.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Susan L Look, Town Clerk*