



## **Provincetown School Committee Meeting**

**PROVINCETOWN HIGH SCHOOL  
ELMER I. SILVA LEARNING CENTER  
12 Winslow Street  
PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657**

**Tuesday  
November 13, 2012  
5:30 p.m.**

**Members Present: Kerry Adams, Cass Benson, Jamie Kryszkiewicz,  
Shannon Patrick, and Lory Stewart.**

**Members Absent: none**

**Staff: Dr. Beth Singer, Superintendent  
Kim Pike, District Principal**

### **AGENDA**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m.

#### **Public Comments**

One of the owners who live at 8 Webster Place said that he had concerns regarding the addition of the playground at the High School Building. He said that they are speaking for themselves since the playground abuts their property. He's not comfortable and he does have a few concerns.

The owner's 1<sup>st</sup> concern regards a public hearing on this matter; this change of use should have had a public hearing and he would like one. Also some of his concerns are about noise, the nature of the fencing and the overall impact of the playground. He, too, mentioned the lack of a public hearing and he also had a question on the lack of a setback. He would like everything stopped until the public hearing is held and he's mostly concerned about the noise. The bylaw requires a 50 ft. setback regarding noise. He also requests that others have an opportunity to air their inputs.

His partner did meet with Dr. Singer and – we are asking that there be a community meeting for a dialogue. Another question was - how about the loss of many of these parking spaces so we are asking for a public meeting to discuss all of this and calling it an open dialogue.

Another person who said that he has only been a resident for 2 years said that we're requesting a hearing based on a "change of use."

**Motion: Move to take up New Business following Public Comments and prior to the minutes of the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams                      Seconded: Lory Stewart                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

Dr. Singer said that on October 22<sup>nd</sup> all abutters were notified along with e-mails from our neighbors. The issues raised were noise, visual access, locking of the playground, light pollution, hours of use of the playground and lighting. These were the issues raised and there was about an hour meeting this afternoon to clarify what we're talking about. Our neighbors are correct – they were not asked for their input and she apologizes. Also, it's important that the Provincetown School Committee members (PSC) know that whatever happens with the playground is their decision. We have some disagreements on interpretation of bylaws between the neighbors and the town.

There were maps supplied which told that Dorothy Perry and Minerva Perry were the original owners of the property. Where the edge of the pavement is was the property line of our neighbors. We also have maps of the playground itself in your packet.

Beth continued by saying that the playground was designed with safety matters in mind. The only fence is the triangle and there will be a second gate.

Jamie Kryszkiewicz said that we don't anticipate losing any parking spaces. The town has engaged a parking expert to redesign the lot and - per Beth – parking is not a problem except for June and September. Number 8 Webster Place owners said that their property comes right up to where the fence will be.

Cass said that the bylaw regarding "excessive noise" is one she is more than familiar with and perhaps David Gardner who was in attendance could speak about the bylaw.

David Gardner, Assistant Town Manager, said that Cass is correct – it has to be noise heard within 50 feet. Whenever police respond to a noise complaint and if it's perceived to be “excessive noise” – then it goes to someone else's determination.

Kerry Adams asked - what kind of fencing? Beth it will be chain link – black – and when she expressed the neighbors concerns, the fence installer suggested weaving strips to close up the openings in chain link. There are two lights in that vicinity, also.

Kerry – are we going to close the playground at a certain hour? Beth said that there was a plea to keep it open to the public. Her primary goal is to have it available to the school but we could lock it up at sunset. If we did that you would lose all the week-ends.

Cass Benson then asked - how many hours will the playground be used? Kim Pike said that we have two playground sessions on a scheduled basis – twice/day.

Shannon Patrick said that the playgrounds have always been open year round so that the children always have access to it.

VMES now VMCC has always been available. Other playgrounds have been accessible during daylight hours.

Jamie K. then asked - can we just put signage up? – She feels the noise is mostly parking lot noise. The children really need a playground.

Cass B. next asked – is this parking lot monitored? She has seen the parking force monitor the playground. Then there was a big push for signage.

Shannon P. said that it should be just for school use.

Kerry A. said that he doesn't think we are going to make waves. He's O.K. with the neighbors having a public hearing and if there are problems we can deal with them.

Lory Stewart said that she agrees with Kerry and she does think 45 min/day is not an absurd amount of time and she is not used to seeing garbage in the playground. She does, however, have a question about our liability insurance and wonders if the

lighting is sufficient and no extra will be necessary – she does think it will be important for a public hearing.

Dr. Singer said we have everything in place and our installer is getting impatient.

Shannon P. said that the entire parking lot belongs to the school.

**Motion: Move to convene a meeting regarding the playground on Friday, November 16, 2012 at 5:30 p.m.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams                      Seconded: Lory Stewart                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

Lory also suggested asking the police if there have been any issues at the other playgrounds. Maybe someone from the Police Department could attend the meeting on Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup> to address any concerns that neighbors may have.

Lory then asked if the DPW would be agreeable to remove any rubbish generated.

The slats suggested for the chain link fence would save the kids from dog bites, etc. Thus the concerns to be addressed on Friday will be alcohol, dogs, and lighting.

### **Senior Project to Honduras**

One of our seniors, Katlyn Silva, who aspires to becoming a teacher asked for permission to complete a 3 week community service project in a Children’s Home in Honduras. She is working very closely with Nancy Flasher. It is projected to have a minimum of 45 hours for the three-week period over 5 days/week working 7 to 11 hours/day. The trip will take place from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 22<sup>nd</sup> – arriving back home on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Katlyn is sponsoring a young boy in the home for \$30/month and is anxious to finally meet him in person.

**Motion: Move to grant Katlyn Silva permission to go to Honduras for a three-week period.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams      Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

### **School Report Cards – Amy Rokicki**

Amy R. made the presentation on “how our school is doing.” All the information she presented is available to anyone but was gone over page by page. Amy said that we now have 125 students this year which is up from 98.

Kerry A. asked - when do you expect these numbers to be higher considering the fewer students per teacher ratio. What do you anticipate?

There didn't seem to be any substantive answer.

### **Ratification of Article XXI of the CBA**

**Motion: Move that we table the approval until the next meeting since it just got into our packets.**

**Motion: Lory Stewart                      Seconded: Cass Benson                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

Lory made the motion since the PSC had just received the 20 page document and she wanted time to read and digest it. Beth said that the teachers just rectified this today and we're actually operating under this.

Beth – we have had negotiations with the teacher's association since July and we believe that we've ironed out all the kinks and we agree that what we have now is acceptable for a pilot. We have to submit to the state by September 2013. Mainly the previous article was impossible for us to live with for another year and we have built in negotiations until next year. The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) really defines what is behind it. We've modeled this after the state's model with some changes in dates, etc.

### **Minutes of October 16, 2012 meeting.**

**Motion: Move to approve the minutes of the October 16<sup>th</sup> meeting as written.**

**Motion: Kerry Adams                      Seconded: Cass Benson                      Vote: 5-0-0.**

### **Exterior Maintenance Schedule and Costs**

The Central Register was given a copy of the Request for Quotation (RFQ) for design proposals. Interested architectural/engineering firms will make a visit tomorrow (Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>) and after that the different interested companies will submit their proposals and then be interviewed by Dr. Singer. She will make her recommendations to the PSC and ultimately they will make their decision on Beth's recommendation. The deadline for the submissions is November 31<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 p.m. The selected firm will be the responsible body for monitoring the contract

### **VMCC – Heat?**

Cass – is the heat on in the VMCC? Answer: Will be by end of this week.

### **New High School Students**

We have acquired new students. There is a total of 4 new high school students which come under our responsibility. If all of them opt to attend Nauset, we will be within what we budgeted with a margin of about \$2K.

We are also going to be responsible for a student who resides in Truro. The student is in a residential school on the Cape. We will continue that placement until the age of 22 which will be in 2014. We are also responsible for transportation home on holidays and/or vacations.

### **Policy Manual (Sections E & F)**

**Motion: Move to accept Sections E and F in the policy manual in form.**

**Motion was made, seconded, and approved by all.**

### **Maintenance Schedule**

Mark Almeida included a maintenance schedule and attendant costs for the High School. Beth met with the Building Committee and they really wanted a PSC commitment as part of their support during the renovation. Beth said that you just passed Section F and she thought it would be nice to add the maintenance policy to the Section.

Lory wondered aloud – is there a way to start the fund – every 5 years – wouldn't there be a way that we could start the fund – maybe it can be a capital expense – it seems it would be easier to set up \$20K budgeted every year instead of asking for large amounts in different years.

Cass feels that they have to work with the FinCom and maybe start with Dan Hoort.

Kerry asked - couldn't the town set up a fund that would be a separate account for the PSC maintenance fund?

Kerry also asked - is this property insured and is there a huge deductible? That would be something to look into. Maybe before the December meeting we should have Beth look into the deductible and the insurance.

Beth said that during the last storm there were panels that flew off the building but no claim was made.

### **Propane Bid Acceptance for VMCC**

Shannon Patrick stepped down from the discussion based on a conflict of interest.

The slab for the tank was poured on Saturday and by Friday everything will be working. We had 2 bids for propane and Beth is recommending that we take the F.A. Days bid.

**Motion: Move to accept the bid from F.A. Days for the propane.**

**Motion: Cass Benson                      Seconded: Jamie Kryszkiewicz**

**Vote: 4-0-1 ab (SP)**

### **Fee Schedule for Wee Care**

The fee schedule for Wee Care was discussed with all members of the PSC. Shannon asked if there were still open enrollment. Kim said – no, it's disruptive with new children coming in so that's why there is the September 1<sup>st</sup> stipulation that proposes that children who turn 3 after Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> of any given year, remain in Wee Care with reduced rates as indicated in the center of the chart that was supplied.

Lory asked if the Wee Care is self-sufficient. This evidently had to do with the licensure requirements of the teachers. Kim and Beth have been exploring having a ½ day with a fully licensed teacher.

We're currently talking about having a parent meeting to address some of these issues.

### **PSC Comments**

Lory requested clarification on the December School Committee date. She thinks the PSC changed it to December 4<sup>th</sup> (not the 11<sup>th</sup> as previously mentioned). Lory was right – the December meeting is on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Also Lory commented that last month we moved \$4,300 from the student activities account and we used just the interest. Me thinks Lory would like the name of the facility that would hand out that kind of interest.....she's ready to invest!!!

Beth said that it was from money that the students had raised and it goes into the student's activities money account and can only be spent on student activities, hence the school bus expenditure – for students.

Kerry wanted to thank all the voters who voted for the school repairs. He was very thankful and grateful for the positive outcome.

Cass agreed with Kerry – and in essence said “Ditto”

Shannon read that the Wee Care is having a fund raiser and she’d like clarification on the reason. Beth said that they have some specific equipment that they are anxious to get and its not part of our regular budget.

Beth announced that we’re having a pre-Thanksgiving bake sale on Tuesday at the Stop and Shop to raise money. It’ll be pies and cakes.

**Next there were 2 motions made:**

- 1. Move to go into Executive Session & not return to the regular meeting.**
- 2. Move to adjourn the PSC public meeting at 7:30 p.m.**

**Both motions were made, seconded, and approved by all.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Evelyn Gaudiano*

E. Rogers Gaudiano

**Approved by** \_\_\_\_\_ on December 4, 2012.  
Shannon Patrick, Chair