

SANBORN REGIONAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

December 14, 2017

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Annie Collyer, Chair
Charlton Swasey, Vice Chair
Mary Cyr
Jack Kozec
James Doggett
Cheryl Gannon
Sandra Rogers-Osterloh
Tammy Mahoney, School Board Representative

1. CALL TO ORDER at 7:04 PM by Chair Collyer.

1.1 All Budget Committee members present.

2. ACTION ON MINUTES –Chair Collyer advised that minutes from last the Budget Committee meeting (12/7/17) could not be approved or accepted, because the Committee's Recording Secretary experienced a death in the family, and she had not been able to draft them. Mrs. Collyer told her to take care of her priorities at home, and to complete the minutes when she was able to do so.

3.0 AGENDA MODIFIED to include discussion for adopting the Budget Committee Guidelines- the final version of which, included edits and suggestions from members, and was distributed by email to members on 11/07/17.

Motion made by Mrs. Gannon to accept Guidelines as presented on 11/7/17.

No second. Motion did not carry.

Motion made by Mrs. Collyer to amend the timeline for election of officers from 30 days after the election is finalized, to 60 days after the election, to accommodate current or future members who may not be available within 30 days after the election due to scheduled time away. She noted that the work of the Budget Committee does not begin until late summer, so there is time. Seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

MOTION CARRIED: 6-2, with Mrs. Gannon and Mrs. Cyr opposed, and all other members voting in favor, with no abstentions.

3.1 Mrs. Gannon suggested another amendment, to appoint a Secretary, as outlined in the Guidelines, so that we would have a back up to draft minutes, in the event our recording secretary is indisposed, as was the case that evening. Doing so would allow us to be in compliance with reporting requirements. **No second. Motion did not carry.**

Mr. Doggett pointed out that such a provision was already included in the Guidelines document, and Mrs. Collyer clarified that we simply need to implement that change.

3.2 Motion made by Mrs. Mahoney to adopt the Guidelines, as amended. Seconded by Mrs. Gannon.

MOTION CARRIED: 7-1 in favor, with Mr. Doggett opposed. All other members voted in favor, with no abstentions.

4. BUDGET COMMITTEE DEVELOPMENT

4.1 Motion made by Mrs. Gannon to reinstate **\$206,960** (2.5 FTE teaching positions) for a net reduction of 6 positions, Vs. 8.5, as voted by the School Board on 12/6/17. Seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

MOTION FAILED: 3-5, with Mrs. Rogers-Osterloh, Mrs. Mahoney and Mrs. Collyer voting in favor, and all others opposed, with no abstentions.

4.2 Motion made by Mr. Doggett to reinstate \$ 111,960 (1.5 FTEs less \$95,000 for Math Coordinator). Seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

MOTION FAILED (tie): 4-4, with Mr. Doggett, Mr. Kozec, Mrs. Mahoney and Mrs. Cyr in favor, and all others opposed. There were no abstentions.

4.3 Motion made by Mrs. Gannon to reinstate **\$124,176** (1.5 FTEs). Seconded by Mrs. Rogers-Osterloh

MOTION CARRIED: 6-2, with Mr. Doggett and Mr. Swasey opposed, all others in favor, with no abstentions.

4.4. \$36,275 of Revolving Facilities Fund is confirmed available to satisfy the NESDEC study(\$30,000), and maintenance of the High School gym floor (\$4,475)and the Swasey Gym floor (\$1,800). This amount can come right off the bottom line of the budget.

Since it is the School Board's budget that is being voted on, and the \$30,000 NESDEC study was *included* in their Budget, it was decided to take a vote to make clear the Budget Committee's position on the matter:

Motion made by Mr. Doggett (for discussion purposes-only) to add **\$30,000** for the NESDEC study.

Seconded by Mrs. Cyr.

MOTION FAILED: 0-8, with all opposed, and no abstentions.

4.5 Motion made by Mrs. Gannon to add **\$50,000** for a new Administrative Support position, to be shared by the Curriculum Director and Business Administrator. Seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

MOTION FAILED: 2-6, with Mrs. Gannon and Mrs. Mahoney in favor, all others opposed, and no abstentions.

4.6 Motion made by Mrs. Rogers-Osterloh to fund **\$20,000** for a new part-time Administrative Assistant position as noted above, for one year. Seconded by Mr. Swasey.

MOTION CARRIED: 8-0, by unanimous vote.

4.7 Motion made by Mrs. Gannon to reinstate **\$7,000** to fund School Board stipends, as recommended by legal counsel. Seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

MOTION FAILED: 3-5, with Mrs. Gannon, Mrs. Mahoney and Mrs. Cyr in favor, with all others opposed and no abstentions.

4.8 Motion made by Mr. Doggett to remove **\$6,275** from the budget to reflect available funds from the Revolving Facilities Fund, which has been approved for this use. Seconded by Mr. Kozec.

MOTION CARRIED - 8-0, by unanimous vote.

4.9 Motion made by Mr. Swasey to add \$1,708 for Bass Fishing (athletics). Seconded by Mr. Doggett for discussion purposes-only.

MOTION FAILED: 0-7-1, with all members opposed, except for Mr. Swasey, who abstained.

4.10 Mrs. Gannon drilled down in the pivot tables, and made a motion that we reduce On-line Access Fees (line 56430) by **\$10,000**; based on the *history* of actual expenditures falling far short of budgeted appropriations year after year. Seconded by Mr. Doggett.

Mrs. Collyer noted the Budget Committee had already voted on this item at our last meeting, and Mr. Ambrose had asked us to trust he was in the process of analyzing our needs in relation to our existing inventory, but has not yet had the opportunity to execute the analysis.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-2-1, with Mrs. Collyer and Mrs. Mahoney opposed. All others in favor, except for Mr. Swasey, who abstained.

5.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

5.1 Corey Masson (Newton) thanked the Committee for working collaboratively on the budget, and for engaging in open discussions.

5.2 Pam Brown (Newton) also thanked the Committee for their hard work, but noted a concern with the

way the budget was approached, as in years past. It is her belief we should start with a zero based budget and build it up, based on the district's actual needs and goals: anticipated enrollment, staffing, programs, capital depreciation, etc. *rather* than continue to talk about reductions, cuts and decreases, which have a negative connotation. She encouraged us to be cautious about wording and phrasing going forward in an effort to avoid unnecessary animosity.

5.3 Jim Baker (Newton) thanked the Committee and the Administrative and Leadership Team especially, for digging in to better understand the District needs

6.0 COMMITTEE COMMENT

6.1 Mrs. Collyer, Committee Chair, echoed the sentiments of both Mr. Baker and Mrs. Brown, and thanked them both for their views.

6.2 Mrs. Gannon also recognized the tremendous efforts of the (mostly) new Administrative Team to research and understand the District, especially without access to key personnel for support. She asked the voters to consider all of this, and to continue to show respect by allowing them to do their jobs.

7.0 RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Mr. Doggett made a motion to send our recommended budget of **\$35,108,007** to the School Board.
Seconded by Mr. Kozec

MOTION CARRIED: 7-0-1, with all members in favor, with the exception of Mr. Swasey, who abstained.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

8.1 The next Sanborn Regional Budget Committee meeting is *tentatively* scheduled for Thursday, December 21, 2017. This will be a Joint Board meeting with the School Board in the event they do not endorse our budget figure and they wish to further deliberate our recommended budget. We will know more early next week, and the appropriate notifications will be communicated and posted.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Collyer asked for a Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:04 PM, moved by Mr. Doggett and seconded by Mrs. Mahoney.

Vote: All in Favor

Minutes Respectively Submitted by:
Mary Cyr
at-large member