

Notice: These minutes are in D R A F T format, and shall remain as such as the legal record in compliance with RSA 91:A in their written archival form. They are likely to contain errors and may be in need of correction which can only be done in public in a properly-posted, subsequent meeting of the School Board. Accordingly, you are referred to the minutes of a subsequent (i.e. future -- but not necessarily the next sequential) meeting of the Board to identify what may have been changed as an approved and properly modified record in compliance with law.

NEWFOUND AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Board Minutes

Monday, September 25, 2023

Non-Public: 6 p.m.

Public Session: Following Non-Public

Location: LMC - Newfound Regional High School

- I. Call to Order by the School Board Chair, Melissa Suckling at 6 p.m.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
- III. Record Roll:
 - Kimberly Bliss, Vice Chair Alexandria present
 - Dominic Halle, Bridgewater present
 - Joe Maloney, Bristol present
 - Melissa Suckling, Danbury present
 - Britta Matthews, Groton present
 - Thomas Edwards, Hebron present
 - Nathan Saler, New Hampton present
- IV. Melissa made a motion to enter Non-Public Session: 91-A:3II(a): The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employer or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.
and
RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Kim Bliss seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed** Board left for nonpublic and returned to public session at 6:41 p.m.
- V. Approval or Modification of Agenda
add #3 to New Business: Maternity FMLA Request
- VI. Approval of Minutes
 - a. September 11, 2023 Dominic first, Kim second. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - b. September 18, 2023

Notice is hereby made that public comment shall be made without expectation of a response by any School Board member to matters raised by such commentary. The Board will not hear personal complaints about school personnel nor against any person connected with the school system. The expectation of all in attendance is to conduct themselves in a civil manner. The Board respects the right of the public to communicate its stance of matters of interest, but meetings are scheduled in advance to conduct business put forth on its publicly posted agenda only.

- VII. Public Comment (Minimum 30 minutes)
 Aubrey Freedman, Bridgewater commented on NHSBA resolutions.
 Ariel Maloney, Bristol noted the repercussions of not collaborating with the steering committee.
 Emails received from Stacy Giles, Principal BHVS and Katlin Simula, Groton.
- VIII. Correspondence
 Letter received concerning the access to football field and other athletic fields and concerning consideration for providing adequate accommodations for those with disabilities.
 Town of Bristol Zoning Board concerning Abutters Hearing for 140 N. Main Street.
- IX. Announcements and Recognition
- Superintendent Report Steve Nilhas noted the total school enrollment is higher than the projected 1115 enrollment. He expects the budget process to consider preschool numbers that may need aides and resources.
 - Student Representative Report none
 - Teacher Representative Report Sarah Ohl reported on the middle school.
- X. Committee Reports
- Budget Committee will set an agenda when the deliberative session date is set.
 - Facilities Committee will visit each building to set priorities and cost of projects.
 - Policy Committee needs to meet.
 - Wellness Committee none
 - Building Committee looking at a potential site at the high school.
 - Curriculum Committee none
 - Hill School District Committee none
- XI. New Business
- Budget Hearing Date Melissa first. Kim second. January 8, 2024. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - Field Trip Approval Freedom Trail November 2. Kim first, Dominic second. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - Maternity FMLA Request Melissa first, Tom seconded to approve. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
- XII. Old Business
- HB 349 Work Session board discussed forming a subcommittee. Melissa moved to nominate Robin, Joe and Kim. Tom seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 Joe moved to continue discussion with the steering committee. Dominic seconded. Vote 6-1-0-0 (Hebron voted No) **Motion Passed**
 - TSA - Technology Student Association Melissa moved to add the TSA at the high school. Tom seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - Superintendent Search Melissa named a 15-member search committee. Kim seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - Deliberative Session Date Melissa moved to set the date for February 3, 2024. Tom seconded. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**
 - Delegate Assembly – Board vote on resolutions Melissa read the resolutions to be voted on.
 #9 Melissa first, Tom second to not support. Vote 7-0-0-0 **Motion Passed**

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- #10 Melissa first, Tom second to not support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #11 Kim first and Dominic second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #12 Melissa first and Tom second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #13 Melissa first, Kim second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #14 Nate first and Tom second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #15 Nate first, Britta second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #16 Tom first, Kim second to not support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #17 Tom first, Joe second to support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #18 Melissa first, Tom second to accept. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***
 #19 Melissa first, Nate second to not support. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

XIII. Board Comments

Melissa asked Superintendent Nilhas to follow up with the letter concerning improved accommodations for those needing them.

Kim noted many Open Houses coming up.

Dominic applauded the new Booster Club.

PTOs are coming back.

XIV. Financial no report

XV. Adjournment

Melissa moved to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. seconded by Tom. Vote 7-0-0-0 ***Motion Passed***

Respectfully submitted by Ruth Whittier, School Board Clerk

District staff: Superintendent of Schools, Steve Nilhas; Robin Reinhold, Business Administrator; Nancy Coffin, Student Services Administrator; Jeannette Shedd, Curriculum Administrator; Susan Read, Videographer

Public: there were many members in the audience and emails and letters were received and read.

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September 25, 2023

To the Newfound Area School Board,

I wanted to reach out to have my voice heard during public comments at this evening's meeting as I am unable to attend.

There are so many unknowns of HB 349 and questions, wondering what will happen if Groton, Bridgewater and Hebron do vote to leave SAU4? I am concerned about the lack of information that we currently have and how this puts undue stress on my staff. They are a truly amazing group of people and deserve to come to school, collaborate, and teach the children without fearing what is to come, or why we cannot get answers. Our B-HVS families are also looking for answers. You can help.

I am asking that you please engage in conversations with the steering committee for HB349 so that you can help to get accurate information out to everyone and show continued support of B-HVS as part of the district. We are Newfound.

Thank you for your consideration,

Stacy Giles

Principal, Bridgewater-Hebron Village School

Katlin Simula
Groton NH
9/25/23

Good Evening,

Unfortunately I am unable to attend the school board meeting tonight in person, but I wanted to provide more information on the Moms for Liberty Grafton County chapter.

I have done my own research and had many questions about Moms for Liberty. As always with large entities I agree with some of it, but not all of it. I recently spoke with the chapter chair of Hillsborough County NH and a chapter chair in Mississippi. The two biggest takeaways are that everyone is welcome and each chapter has its own autonomy to run how it seems fit.

To make it clear, wanting age appropriate material for children is not the same as a book ban. While I worked in an eighth grade classroom we sent out parent permission slips to read and watch The Hunger Games. I don't think requiring parent permission for minors using mature content, like the book Gender Queer, is radical or extreme. Using parent permission slips is a great way to make sure all parents have a choice in the material their children use and provides transparency between home and school.

Working with school districts is important and we intend on taking teamwork seriously. As a member of the SAU 4 curriculum committee I am proud of the work we have done to provide parents with options. You may be wondering why we are starting a Moms for Liberty chapter, instead of working on a smaller local scale. Moms for Liberty provides a lot of resources, knowledge, and support. Change also happens with numbers. Last year a few concerns about the new curriculum Amplify were voiced, but nothing changed until many community members spoke up. This led to forming a curriculum committee and creating a new document for caregivers; positive outcomes with collaborations from our district.

Our chapter will also focus on parental rights and health freedom. I am explaining this in future tense, because the chapter is just forming and we need at least ten members to start (which I am confident we will have by 10/22). Different roles and positions within the chapter have yet to be decided as well. If you have concerns or want more information I suggest attending the October 22nd meeting from 5-7 pm at Pleasant View B&B in Bristol.

Thank you for your time.

Katlin

September 15, 2023

Dear Chuck Saia, Executive Director
Governor's Commission on Disability

My name is Krystyna Donati. I am a 75 year old woman and a retired Parking Control Officer (PCO) from Manchester. I use a cane to help me walk. On 9/11, Remembrance Day, I attended a soccer game at Newfound Regional High School. The terrain to reach the field was very steep and long. Definitely a challenge. A young male adult zipped by me in a golf cart. Then a young female adult did the same. Neither one stopped to assist or even inquired if I needed assistance.

During half-time, I had a conversation with an elderly couple who told me that going down and up the steep road was very difficult and he being a veteran with a Handicap Placard. Some of the locals had been chit-chatting about the situation. One woman mentioned that her 84 year old father who has COPD would like to see the games but getting to the field is impossible. I am sure more grandparents would attend if there was easier access to the soccer field.

The game ended and after a conversation with some locals, the young male adult approached me offering a ride on the golf cart to the parking lot. I declined since no one else was offered a ride that I could see. I expressed my thoughts and concerns. See something, say something, do something; therefore, I respectfully request a review of the situation. Encourage the "powers that be" consider making changes to accommodate people with Walking Disabilities. Enclosed are photos of the terrain.

Sincerely,

Krystyna Donati, 260 Harrison St, Manchester
Krystyna Donati

CC: Senator Jeanne Shaheen
Pierre Couture, Supt Newfound Area School
Paul Hoiriis, Principal Newfound Regional High



Facing west towards
the High School.



Area just at the
entrance of the
soccer field.

Bristol Zoning Board
Town Office Building at 5 School Street
Bristol, NH

Notice of Abutters' Hearing

The Bristol Zoning Board has received an application for a Special Exception on a lot which abuts property owned by you. As provided by the Town of Bristol Zoning Ordinance, the Board will hold a hearing which will give you the opportunity to look at the plan, ask questions, and make comments. If you wish, you may view the application prior to the meeting at the Town Land Use Office during regular business hours. It is recommended that you make an appointment, if possible.

The hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday October 3, at 6 pm. The applicant is Alicia Warwick. The location is 140 N. Main St. (Tax map and lot #113-057) in the Village Residential district. The request is to allow a short-term rental Air B&B, which is currently permitted by Special Exception per Article 3.2 Section B of the Zoning Ordinance.

Contact (603) 744-3354 x 117 with any questions.



ABUTTER'S GUIDE

Suggestions for Presenting Testimony at a Public Hearing

Each time you speak, state your name and address for the record.

Keep your comments concise and to the point. Try to state all questions and concerns at once and then allow the next person to speak.

Testimonies often consist of favorable or opposing views, alternative plan options, and questions on issues with respect to the property under development.

Address questions to the chair, rather than the applicant.

Be polite and respectful of differing opinions.

Stick to the issues relating to the project and within the scope of the Board's review.

Comments at a hearing need not be repeated at subsequent ones unless they have not been addressed.

What is an Abutter?

Under RSA 672:3 – "Abutter" means any person whose property adjoins or is directly across the street or stream from the land under consideration by the local Land Use Board.

Why am I receiving a public hearing notice?

Abutters are required to receive a public hearing notice by statute. The purpose of the hearing is to educate abutters and the public of the proposal and also for the Land Use Board and the applicant to benefit from the views, opinions, and remarks of the abutters and anyone else who might be affected by the proposal.

What should I expect at the public hearing?

At the hearing, the applicant will present plans and explain the proposed project to the Land Use Board and the audience. The Board will ask questions and ask for clarification when needed. Testimony is taken from abutters and other affected parties. Once a hearing is closed to the public, no further public comment will be allowed. Hearings may be continued, if additional information is required, for a Land Use Board to make a final decision on a proposed project.

How can I make my concerns known if I cannot attend the hearing?

Comments can be submitted in writing prior to a public hearing to the Land Use Office. As with all testimony, it is most helpful to raise concerns early in the process.

How often will I be notified of public hearings?

Abutters are notified once in accordance with RSA 675:7: at least ten (10) days prior to the first public hearing. If a hearing requires a second, third, or subsequent hearings, an abutter must check the town offices, the town website, or the town's public access television channel for more information. The continued hearing is announced at the scheduled meeting of a case.

How can I find out more about what is being proposed?

Applications, plans, and supporting materials can be accessed at the Land Use Office at 5 School Street, Bristol NH. All members of the public are welcome to review this information. Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and appointments are recommended.

Will I be notified of the decision?

Copies of the notice of decision are not sent to abutters. You may request a copy of any decision from the Land Use Office.

How can I appeal a decision?

Appeals are normally made to the Zoning Board of Adjustment within 30 days of a Land Use Board decision. Additional information on the appeal process can be located through the Land Use Office.