

On May 31st at 7pm a planning committee was officially formed to assess the possible plans of reorganization or withdrawal for the SAU 29 by the town of Chesterfield.

Members Present

Gary Winn, School District Moderator.

Wayne Woolridge, Acting Superintendent.

Kristin McKeon and Becky Auger, School Board Members.

Michael Robarge, Ruth Van Houten, Sue Sciuto members of the public.

Anita Barber and Barbara Girs both members of the finance committee.

Susan Newcomer, nonvoting alternative.

The meetings are open to the public.

Judy Idelkope, sat in on the meeting as the only nonparticipating member of the public.

Minutes

Gary Winn brought the meeting to order by explaining the procedure the committee must follow. He reviewed the committee's charge under Title XV, Chapter 194-C; to study whether or not the Chesterfield School District should withdraw from the SAU. See document for more details.

Mr. Winn discussed the addition of an extra member to the group and suggested, in the light of the statute's constraint, that Ms. Newcomer be an alternate with no vote, becoming a member if an existing committee member could no longer serve. There was a question of the legality of the added person. In creating this addition an even board would be created which could present possible problems. For the time being Sue Newcomer would serve as a nonvoting alternate.

The goal of the committee would be to look at the information objectively and make a recommendation at the time of the next town meeting in 2008. Based on the findings of the committee we would proceed on the next step.

Introductions were made.

The process of nominating a head of the committee had some discussion on whether the head should be a member of the community or a school board member. The concern was that the study would be lead by the public and not associated to the school. Michael Robarge was nominated by Ms. Auger, Sciuto seconded the nomination. Kristin McKeon was nominated by Ruth Van Houten and seconded by Ms. Girs. Ms. McKeon won the vote. 4-3. Ms. Van Houten, Ms. Girs, Mr. Robarge, and McKeon voted for McKeon. Ms. Auger, Ms. Sciuto, and Ms. Barber voted for Mr. Robarge.

According to Ms. Girs, Ms. Auger agreed to serve as secretary in absence of any other volunteers.

Kristin led the meeting by stating that it would be an objective process and we would lead without any personal agendas. Kristin provided reading material on the subjects ahead of

us. The Title XV, Chapter 194-C, procedure; Plans for Organization or Withdrawal. Susan Sciuto, brought a past study done by Marlboro School district when they looked at the possibility of separating from the SAU.

Conclusion

Sue Newcomer suggested before we delve into too much discussion we do some research on what has been done before us.

Create an outline for the study.

Next meeting would create subcommittees and assign members to them.

Mr Woolridge was to contact Sarah Browning, assistant Dept. of Ed, about what technical assistance the Dept of Ed could provide.

The next meeting will be Friday, June 8, 2007 at 6pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.