

**Finance Committee ~ Minutes of Meeting
Wednesday, July 23, 2003
Fairbank Senior Center – 7:30pm**

Present: Co-Chairs Tracy Billig & Bob Jacobson, Michael Grosberg, Marty Ragonas, Shauna Simmonds, and Sheila Stewart. Also present: Robin Porcella, Recording Secretary

Item 1: Approve minutes:

Members were asked to review the minutes from the June 26, 2003 meeting, and state any issues they might have.

VOTED: On motion to approve the minutes from the June 26, 2003 meeting. Motion made by Marty Ragonas, and seconded by Tracy Billig. On motion, vote carries 6 in favor and 0 opposed.

Item 2: Discuss letter of instruction to cost centers:

Tracy Billig stated that the Superintendents, and the Lincoln FinCom Co-Chair should receive a copy of the letter as well.

Michael Grosberg believes milestones 1 and 2 need to be eliminated.

Bob Jacobson asked if milestone 1 was ever completed. Michael Grosberg informed him it was completed at the liaison meetings.

Tracy Billig stated that the spreadsheet they used last year is needed again, before any scenario numbers can be determined. She stated she would ask Maureen Valente to prepare the spreadsheet for the committee.

Marty Ragonas asked what date the letter is to be sent out. Bob Jacobson hopes to discuss the letter more at the next meeting. He hopes to have the letter out by September.

Item 3: Update and discussion of school contract analysis project:

Shauna stated that so far they have discussed the goals, time frames, and what data should be collected at their past meeting. Nothing definite has been set yet. Shauna Simmonds stated they hope to have a time frame set by the next FinCom meeting.

Marty Ragonas informed the committee that it seemed as if everyone was happy to contribute to project. She stated LSRHS seems very open with the project, but SPS seems still a little leery.

Shauna asked if the analysis should contain historical information. Bob Jacobson stated that enrollment figures are the only historical information he would like to see. Sheila Stewart states she might have some of the old enrollment figures.

Item 4: Update from liaisons

Tracy Billig informed the committee that the Police Department was close to settling and that the Fire Department is still involved in negotiations.

Bob Jacobson stated that LSRHS is on track to be ready for September 2004. The fields are in behind schedule, and we will most likely need to rent fields for 1 or 2 seasons.

Item 5: Discussion with PTERC Co-Chairs:

Tara Reed & Dave Levington will be serving as the Co-Chairs to the Property Tax Equity Review Committee (PTERC). They reminded the Finance committee members that anything they stated tonight was their own opinions, and not the view of the entire PTERC Committee.

Dave Levington informed the committee that he volunteered since he has been a resident of the town for 30 years, and he has friends who are for and some who are against Article 54. He wants to help get the information out to the public. He stated that the committee needs to find ways to help seniors, not a way to keep kids out of town.

Bob Jacobson informed the committee that he had attended the PTERC meeting on the 10th, and found it to be interesting. He stated that State Representative, Susan Pope, and State Senator, Pam Resor have stated they will not support Article 54.

Bob Jacobson stated that this bill will most likely die in Committee, and asked if so will this cause PTERC friction within the committee. Tara Reed stated that it seems that some members were getting upset with the committee looking into other ideas to help the seniors in town. She stated some members also realize that Article 54 is dead and are willing to look at other alternatives.

Tara Reed stated that the PTERC has divided their members into 3 separate groups: A, B, and C. Group A will analyze historical data. Group B will analyze current data, and Group C will analyze future options. At their next meeting, they are hoping to set some deadlines.

The Finance Committee informed the PTERC co-chairs, that at no time has the FinCom ever issued a financial report or analysis in regards to Article 54.

Item 6: Discussion on September meeting:

It was agreed upon to change the September 3rd meeting date back to the original date of August 26, 2003 at 7:30pm.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30pm