

RPC

Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2008

I. Call to order

Paul Bridge called to order the regular meeting of the Regional Planning Committee at 6:30 p.m. on **January 28, 2008** at Dexter Regional High School.

II. Roll call

The following persons were present: Kevin Jordan, DRHS Supt., Paul Bridge, Ella Munday, Paul Stearns, SAD 4 Supt., John Parola, Peter Cooley, Onie Lougee, Julie Willcott, Steve Foster, Charlotte Violette, Gil Reynolds, Harmony Supt., Stephen Gudroe, Fred Sherburne, Anita Libby-Kain, Bradley Deane, Peter Devine, Rodney Farrar, Michelle Ward, Cindy Hoak, Charles Woodmancy, Dale Huff, Ray Freve, Facilitator, Andrew Seavey, Tom Goulette and Dave Fournier.

III. Opening Comments

Ray Freve started our meeting by giving us some updates from the State. We discussed L.D. 1932 which basically deals with financial changes to the Consolidation Law.

Thirteen Districts' plans have been rejected due to not having 1,200 students. The Legislature is being asked to amend the requirement to 1,000 students. That would bring twelve districts into compliance with the law.

The timeline for completing the plan and consolidating will be discussed but the Legislature is split on that issue. Some are asking for a July 2010 deadline instead of 2009. The consensus is to change the deadline, just not what the new date should be.

The Referendum to do away with the consolidation law did not get enough signatures to come up in November of 2008, but that committee is still working on getting it done in time for November 2009.

Mr. Freve stressed that the information is slow coming from the State. The information coming changes daily.

The group discussed our meetings and the timeline/calendar. We voted to keep the meetings on Mondays for now. The meetings will be held February 11th at DRHC, February 25th at PCMS, March 10th at PCMS, March 24th at PCMS, April 7th at Harmony, April 21st at Harmony and May 5th at Harmony. All meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Michelle Ward will be responsible for calling all members not in attendance at tonight's meeting to inquire whether they are still interested on serving on the committee. It was also suggested that committee members select an alternate to come in their place should they not be able to make a meeting.

As the portions of the plan become completed, the various committee chairs will send their notes to Michelle for submission into the electronic template. This will be published on the RPC Page in each District's website by Dave Fournier.

Discussion was also had regarding how to get the public information regarding the work we are doing, how hard it is to get correct information, etc. Members are encouraged to write "letters to the editor" for submission to the co-chairman. They will in turn provide these to Mr. Fournier for submission to the website. Cindy Hoak also suggested that some type of information or update go into the individual town's meeting books as those books are widely read throughout the communities.

IV. Sub-Committee Work

Governance:

After splitting up into sub-committees, the governance committee reported that all of their portions of the plan are ready to be put into writing and a first reading for the members at our next meeting. They will supply their information to Michelle Ward for distribution to the members before the next meeting. Those parts of the plan that were completed by this committee are Part 1 Partnership; Part 2 Size and Composition of the Board; Part 3 Method of Voting; Part 13D School Choice; Part 4 Local School Committees; Part 13C Election of RSU Board; Part 13B Cost sharing in RSU; and Part 13 G Justify less than 2500 students (This portion was completed by sending in our plan and having the State approve the plan.)

Property/Funds/Contracts

This committee reported that none of their sections, 5,6,7,8,13D or 13E were ready to be put into writing for a vote. They have supplied the superintendents with a list of items that they will need for the next meeting.

Cost Savings/Budget

This committee reported that Section 11 has been completed. They will supply the superintendents with a list of items they will need to complete Sections 13A, 9, and 12. They plan on working on Transportation and then Special Education.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.