

**MAYNARD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**Minutes of School Committee Meeting**  
**Coolidge School**  
**September 18, 2008**

Present: W. Kohlman, M. Brannelly, P. Berry, M. Howrey, A. Gay  
Administrators: Dr. Mark Masterson

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman's Report

The Chairperson, William Kohlman, commented that the meeting on September 17, 2008 with the Board of Selectmen had gone very well with the consensus around the warrant article, the acceptance of the new budget format and the apparent support for the Facilities Manager position.

Superintendent's Report

The Superintendent, Dr. Masterson, (report attached) affirmed Mr. Kohlman's perceptions of the previous evening meeting, explaining he could now begin a budget process with an end product in mind. The Superintendent reviewed summer construction projects (Business Manager's report attached), the Community Preservation Committee's (CPC) review of the Coolidge and the efforts of the High School sign project. Much had been accomplished this summer. In response to a member's question, some of the High School science lab upgrades are still in process, the Green Meadow walkie-talkies and the café tables are on order; otherwise all the previously warranted facilities projects are complete.

Warrant Article

The facilities discussion moved quite quickly to the challenge of marketing the warrant article and ultimately the facilities 'solution'. A range of ideas we suggested and agreed to, from an October Fest booth to the need for a political action committee immediately following the October Town meeting. Mary Brannelly handed out a marketing overview covering a range of activities. Amy Gay spoke to the importance of babysitting arrangements for young families. Amy Gay and Mark Howrey offered to host "coffees" to educate neighbors about the facilities issue. The Superintendent reviewed with the Committee, legal guidelines from the Office of Campaign and Political Finance identifying limitations on use of District resources before town meeting and after a town meeting but before votes on ballot questions raising revenue. He reiterated the importance and the responsibility for School Committee members to speak out for the needs of the District's children.

Facilities Update

A discussion ensued about the nature, responsibilities and appointment of the School Committee Facilities Committee, the MSBA's building committee, and a Town building committee. Mark Howrey agreed to call a Selectman to discuss their perception of the building committee. Mr. Kohlman agreed to check the Town charter regarding this issue. The Superintendent recommended the appointment of John Curran to the School

Committees Facilities Committee. That recommendation was supported by Mark Howrey and Jerry Culbert, Chair of the Facilities Committee. The Committee voted 5-0

to add John Curran, Town Administrator, to the facilities committee in the same advisory capacity as the Superintendent and the Business Administrator, i.e. as a non-voting member.

Mark Howrey requested a list of facilities committee members and their resumes; he offered to create a table reflecting committee expertise.

#### Advertising Policy

The committee voted to accept the Display of Signs at Alumni Field of Policy #707 (5-0).

At 8:20 p.m. there was a roll call vote, 5-0, to enter into executive session to discuss negotiations with the intent to return to public session at a later point in the evening.

At 9:20 p.m. the Committee returned to open session.

#### Minutes

There was a vote to accept the minutes of September 4, 2008; 5-0.

The Committee requested the Superintendent to draft a thank-you note to staff and students regarding the resolution of the 990 minimum hours problem. The Superintendent will consult with the High School Principal regarding to whom to address the notes to. The Superintendent reviewed his topic planning sheet with the Committee. Members added course requirements, marketing, and a report from the High School Principal regarding the 990 minimum hours regulation.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m. by roll call vote, without the intent to return to regular session. (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Mark R. Masterson  
Superintendent of Schools