

MINUTES

School Safety and Security Committee
Wednesday, March 4, 2020
7:30 P.M.
Senior Center Community Room

Members Present:

Patricia Del Monaco, First Selectman
Patricia Cosentino, Superintendent
Maria Evans, OEM Director
Samantha Mannion, BOE Member
Phil Ross, Director of Buildings and Grounds
Dr. Richard Sanzo, Director of Business Operations
Anthony Yorio, BOF Member

Absent: None

Call to Order First Selectman, Pat Del Monaco called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

Amanda Lombard-She said it is her 1st meeting. She thanked everyone for all of their work. At 2/6 BOE meeting members said they didn't feel the Director of Safety and Security position would increase the safety of students. As a parent, she feels this position would alleviate the stress on the Administrators. Does the committee agree that this position wouldn't increase the safety and security any more than what it currently is?

Pat Del Monaco stated that the Committee discussed this position and agrees and support the position. It is on the agenda to discuss in executive session.

Stephanie Marlow is the parent of 2 students. At the 2/6 BOE meeting not everyone on the committee felt this position was needed and as a whole they did not recommend it.

Pat Del Monaco stated that this has not yet been voted on, will be discussed in Executive Session.

Peggy Katkocin, BOE stated that she wanted to clarify that most members of the BOE were not aware of the Security Director position that was recommended for their budget and 1/28 was the 1st time she saw the position in the budget. The BOE understands that they have to make some teacher cuts and they also know they have to have a point person to direct the activities. She voted against this position because she doesn't understand how this person will fit into the organization, what type of person and their background. This is a new position and they are looking to cut teachers. What service does this position provide? The Board members would want to keep this position in the budget if they knew how the person would fit in. If looking to make cuts, this is not a constant prior to this and does not provide a direct service to students. She spoke to the Superintendent that maybe this position could start in January or someone part-time. Who would train this person? There is not a good sense of what this position would do to increase security and tighten control.

Anthony Yorio stated that there was a 4 page detailed description of this position that was a clear understanding of what this position would do and it was cut before being presented at a public hearing

which was irresponsible. He left the meeting with an opinion contrary to what she just said. He feels the position is warranted and would like to see it back in the budget.

Peggy Katkocin stated that they would need to take the money for this from somewhere else and she would talk to the BOE.

-Katie Williams has a daughter in Consolidated. She stated that one of the teacher positions added in the BOE budget is a Kindergarten gym teacher to teach gym in the multipurpose room, which was just used as a selling point to build the new Consolidated. Is that accurate?

Pat Del Monaco stated that this would be more suitable for a BOE meeting question.

There are no more public comments.

Meeting Dates Pat Del Monaco stated that the next meeting would be 4/6. Rich Sanborn asked that additional future meeting dates be delayed because the Architect, JCG, would be at the next meeting and would like to be there to discuss future meeting dates.

3-D Imaging Presentation Pat Del Monaco introduced a presentation for 3D Imaging.

Charles Levin, Emergency Department Coordinator, from Paul Davis Restoration introduced himself. He spoke about and presented a video about a camera (which he had with him) that is like Google Maps but inside a building. It is able to provide a 3-D rendering inside a complex building structure with hallways, stairwells, etc... It can also provide a virtual fire drill and aid in first responder situations. The imaging captures the integrity of the building, is cloud based and can be used for training, fire personnel, etc... He has done this for another school, Perry Hill School in Shelton, but due to security, cannot show what he has done.

Maria Evans asked why this was done at the other school.

Charles stated it was done for preplanning and gathering of information, safety and security of schools to share with key individuals.

Right now this is a pilot program and they are not charging-he would provide this free right now for New Fairfield to test it for 1 building and would leave all of his contact information.

School Safety Design Committee for School Building Projects

Rich Sanzo said that representatives from JCJ will be at the next meeting and will begin the conversation on the infrastructure standards of the new schools and it will need to be in executive session.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion at 7:30 p.m. to add the SVBP grant to amend the agenda to discuss the grant. Samantha Mannion seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved)

Rich Sanzo said that New Fairfield was not awarded the SVPP grant last year, which was a highly competitive federal grant. The funding has been reauthorized and the application process opened up again a few days ago and due by 4/8. On 3/10 he will participate in an overview webinar in elements that would enhance security protocols. After this webinar, each of the boards represented on the Committee should put in letters of support-he will communicate this information to them via email. He will submit the grant. Last year, the only town in Ct that received the grant was Stamford, based on size and the economic capacity of the community and population.

Anthony Yorio asked if Stamford would share their application from last year so we can see how it differs from what we submitted.

Rich stated that he will ask Stamford if they will share last year's application. We have a stronger story for our application this year.

First Responder Training for Autism Awareness

Maria Evans stated that Fire and EMS have no training offered to them to interact with individuals with Autism and the police have very little training. She consulted with a company, IBCCES, that Rich recommended and there is a 2 hour online training module. Bruce Taylor said 20 personnel who are receptive to participate and there are 10 medics interested, also. The cost is \$75 per student.

-Pat Consentino stated that there was an article in the paper about Newtown Police-what training did they use?

-Samantha Mannion stated that there was an article about this and a firefighter in Mass. who does this training in the paper, she will give Maria info.

-Maria-this type of training works well, they can do it at night.

Pat Del Monaco made a motion at 7:37 to enter executive session regarding sensitive security measures for Say Something, Speak Up, the Security Operations Center and School Safety and Security Staffing. She invited Khris Hall, Kim LaTourette, BOE, Wes Marsh from BOF, Peggy Katkocin from BOE, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone from BOE and Karen Fildes and David Block. The motion was seconded by Samantha Mannion. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved).

Say Something/Speak Up Update Executive Session

SOC Update Executive Session

School Safety and Security Staffing Executive Session

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to leave Executive Session. Samantha Mannion seconded. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved)

Anthony Yorio made a motion to adapt and implement Speak Up since Say Something is terminating 3/30. Samantha Mannion seconded. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved)

Pat Del Monaco stated they should vote to support School Safety and Security Staffing.

Anthony Yorio made a motion to vote to ask the BOE to restore the Director of Security position for a minimum of \$35,000 at the earliest time. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved).

Anthony Yorio made a second motion for the Committee to present the job description in its final form that Dr. Sanzo prepared as their responsibilities for the position. Pat Del Monaco seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved)

Pat Del Monaco made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Anthony Yorio seconded the motion. Vote 7-0-0 (Motion approved).

Received by Email on 4/19/2021 @ 1:57 pm
by Pamela J. Dohan, Town Clerk, New Fairfield