

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2007
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: **Board:** President Carol DeLuca, Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mr. Edward Partridge, Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro, Mr. Won Shin and Mr. Richard Sokorai.
Absent: Mr. Richard Carpenter, Mr. David McGinley and Mr. Robert Moldoff

Solicitor: Mr. Mark Sereni, Esquire

Administration: Mrs. Merle Horowitz, Mr. Stanley Piecara, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Joseph Violanti, Mrs. Karen McGinnis and Mr. Michael Dumin

Press: 2

Audience: 8

CALL MEETING TO ORDER and PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. DeLuca opened the meeting at 7:15pm, welcomed all in attendance and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. DeLuca held a moment of silence for the passing of Mary O'Toole-Funk who was employed by the Marple Newtown School District for six years, from 2001 to 2007. Mary was a part-time assistant to the Paxon Hollow Health Office. She was a loyal and friendly employee who enjoyed her job. She added her own dimension of care to the students. Mary was diagnosed with lung cancer this past June and passed away on Saturday, October 6, 2007.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Driscoll stated that all Board members were present except for Mr. Carpenter, Mr. McGinley and Mr. Moldoff.

Ms. DeLuca stated that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss legal and personnel items and that meeting ran a little bit over. I do apologize.

OTHER REPORTS

Items for Board Discussion

- **Cable TV**

Mrs. Horowitz stated that she spoke to Mr. James Sheldrake who is the township manager for Newtown Township. He did tell me affirmatively that Newtown Township will be moving ahead with cable television. They have contacted Comcast who will be their provider and they informed me that there is a six- week timeframe for Comcast to have their station up and ready to go. I asked if someone could come and join us at

tonight's Work Session meeting but tonight was their Supervisor's Meeting. They will try to have a representative here for our October Board meeting to confirm the information that I have just shared with you. I did some work on behalf of our School Board as there were some discussions a few weeks ago about cable television and opportunities that the district might have. I shared that survey with our School Board.

Dr. Shapiro stated that he believes that the Board had asked Mrs. Horowitz to do a survey of all the members of the DCIU and also Lower Merion. You have gotten back twelve responses out of fifteen, I believe. So, there are three responses missing. With respect to broadcasting School Board meetings, nine of the twelve respondents indicated that they do broadcast and or tape-delay broadcast with or without editing. So, not that we necessarily should have the behavior of other districts guide what we do but it is clear that at least in the DCIU a majority of districts do find value in broadcasting school board meetings. I personally believe, as you know, that we should be doing the same. Especially in this day and age of the need for transparency, it is important that we do everything that we can to outreach our communication. Those of us who have been coming to School Board meetings for many years know that you can typically count on fingers of one hand how many members of the public show up with any kind of regularity. Certainly while we have members of the press here regularly, the press can't report on everything that happens. There are a lot of people out there who, I think would find great value in seeing meetings. The issue also in my mind goes to what do we want our communication to be. We have our Superintendent and Mrs. Deacon producing a newsletter a couple of times a year, our website is fairly robust and we have taken steps to have Board email so that stakeholders can contact us and non-stakeholders can contact us. We have our minutes posted on the website now, once they are approved. We have attachments posted. I think these are all very positive things. They help the community to understand what is going on. Many members of the community are not web savvy. They do not have access. I can't tell you how many times people stop me and ask me questions and rant about this or praise about that. I think if we were to broadcast a meeting, we are taking another step in broadening our communication outreach, letting the community understand or at least giving the community the ability to understand what goes on because so many of them don't. There has been a lot of expression by my fellow Board members in previous meetings about concerns about Board members grandstanding once it goes on TV. Believe me, the public will know who is grandstanding and who isn't. It will be somewhat self-policing. If you get a phone call at home saying, "Shapiro, you really ran on at the mouth the other night. What were you doing? You were really grandstanding." Well, maybe Shapiro will change his behavior if that becomes an issue. I think not letting the public have the opportunity to see us conduct our business is the wrong way to go.

Mr. Partridge stated that he believes the first step is getting the cable up and running and working with Newtown Township and working out all the technical aspects of it. I believe we were unanimous across the Board as far as that the cable should be used for district announcements, general school information, community information, sporting events and whatever else Mrs. Horowitz wants to use the station for. Then maybe in the future we should have another discussion regarding taping the meetings. The Board wasn't interested in that before. It could be revisited. It might be a different Board but I think that discussion should be down the road. Let's just get the technology up, running, start using it to broadcast at least the events to the community, start using it in the schools and then bring the taping of the Board meetings up in the future.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that she will agree with Mr. Partridge that now is probably not the best time to take a vote on this. We are going to have new Board members. Maybe it should go on the January Work Session agenda. I don't think it should wait. I was one of the people who couldn't decide which way to go but I think that given the fact that you can always count the number of parents on one hand, its time to move ahead. I don't want to be on television but I think that we should do it because it is the best thing to do communication-wise for this district.

Mr. Shin stated that he knows that this district uses Comcast and Verizon. Understanding that some people don't have Comcast and some people have Verizon, is there something that will put our channel on Verizon's fiber network.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that is not clear yet. That is one of the questions that I will have as we finally sit down with the cable providers, with TelView who will be uploading the data and with both township managers.

Mr. Shin asked if we will be the first district to share this cable channel with a municipality.

Mrs. Horowitz replied yes. No other school district in this county or Lower Merion shares a cable channel with their municipality.

Mr. Shin asked if the municipalities have their own cable station.

Mrs. Horowitz replied yes.

Mr. Shin asked how they are able to work out a separate channel for the school district and we are not.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that Marple Township will possibly be giving us our own channel. They have two. Newtown Township has not had any to date so they are getting one channel that they will be sharing with us.

Mr. Shin stated that it is still up to the municipality on whether they want to give the district their own channel.

Mr. Sokorai asked if the township could limit our content. Could the townships stop us from broadcasting Board meetings even if we wanted to? In addition to this survey, is there any more information that the ones who do it have shared with us either in casual conversation or informally in response to this as to how they like broadcasting, how it has worked out for them, whether they recommend tape and rebroadcasting versus editing versus live?

Mrs. Horowitz replied that there was just casual conversation; nothing specific or dramatic to guide us in any way. They have a person in each township who manages the information. Anna Deacon will likely be managing that for me. We will be producing a monthly show. I am excited about getting started. I definitely wanted this available for the winter weather. My first goal is to have weather information available for families this winter. I would like to talk to my colleagues about how they upload specific information and get some guidance from them down the road.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that most Board members, when we talked about doing this felt that we just get used to it and do it. It depends on the makeup of the Board. If it is like Haverford, that Board is relatively calm and it is easy for them. That is the one that I watch regularly.

Mr. Sokorai asked if the township can limit us. Could they perhaps tell us that they don't want us to broadcast Board meetings?

Mrs. Horowitz replied that she doesn't know. It may be advisable to have this conversation with the liaison to each township.

Dr. Shapiro stated that he is not sure that we have unanimous consent on what would be on the channel. I am certainly not going to speak for Mr. Carpenter but I know he expressed some concerns to me about broadcasting anything. I go back to a comment that Mr. Sokorai made at the last meeting when we were discussing another topic and that is that we are the seated Board. We are here to make decisions. We were not elected to put decisions off to another Board. I don't think that there is anything wrong with us signaling our intent to pursue broadcasting Board meetings. I don't see why we need to wait for a subsequent Board to do that. If we are going to put off one decision then maybe we shouldn't bother having any meetings until the new Board sits. Where do you stop?

Mr. Partridge asked when the cable would be up.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that Mr. Sheldrake stated that it would be six weeks until Comcast actually had them up and running for Newtown Township. My intention is to set up a meeting in the next few weeks with both townships, Comcast, Verizon and TelView. Newtown Township did inform me that they will also be using TelView in addition to Marple which helps me a great deal at 5:30am for snow information. They said six weeks but there are a lot of logistics to be worked out now. I would say possibly by December would be my goal.

Mr. Partridge stated that we have a Board meeting in two weeks. We have another Board meeting in six weeks in November and then in December the new Board sits. I think it is a moot point as far as waiting for a new Board. The new Board is going to be here before the cable is live anyway. It is going to be up to the new Board what we do with it.

Ms. DeLuca asked Mrs. Horowitz to provide updates at both the November 13th and possibly the November 27th meeting so that we know where we stand.

Mrs. Horowitz agreed. It will be a constant topic at each respective meeting.

Comments from the Audience and Comments from the Board

Bonnie Callahan from Marple Township stated that she doesn't understand the objection to broadcasting the meetings. Is it more of a technical objection like Mr. Sokorai mentioned or is it that you don't want the substance of the meetings to be broadcast?

Mr. Partridge stated that the main problem with getting the cable has been between Newtown Township and Comcast. That has been an ongoing problem since Todd Eachus was seated as Board President. We are at a point where we are just about past that. Now we are at the point where we can really have some discussion over the next couple of months as to what we are going to do with it. When the Board discussed it, the majority of the Board at that point and time weren't interested in using it for the meetings, it wasn't even a technological possibility to have the cable channel anyway. I think it is something that we should revisit especially after we are live and we start to use it for the informational purposes. Then, we can really get together and discuss the merits and the Board members opinions as far as televising the meetings. There are steps and we haven't gotten past step one until now.

Dr. Shapiro stated that he has a slightly different perception of the Board opinion. We have had access to Marple Township and we could have gone ahead and done it with Marple. If Newtown Square didn't want to play along well so be it. If the stakeholders in Newtown Square feel strongly about it, they can certainly contact their elected officials and push forward. We have one township that is ready, willing and able. A few months ago when we had a discussion at this table it was pretty clear to me that the sentiment on the Board was that they didn't want the content out there.

Mr. Sokorai stated that he doesn't think that is a fair characterization. There has been no vote one way or the other.

Dr. Shapiro replied that we did take a poll vote. It is in the minutes

Mr. Sokorai stated that our secretary does a wonderful job of taking the minutes and they are posted out in the public. The content of our meetings goes out in the public. I did not object (I haven't made my mind up yet either) to the broadcasting of these meetings. I strongly disagree with the idea that the Board has taken any action to withhold information from the public.

Dr. Shapiro replied that he is not saying that. When we polled the Board, the sentiment that night was clearly “no” to broadcasting meetings. Most of the members who said they didn’t want to do it were concerned about grandstanding.

Mr. Partridge stated that there were a lot of concerns but it wasn’t even a technological possibility at that point. I don’t know how long we have been able to broadcast in Marple Township. It hasn’t been that long. The Board said, in all fairness, if we are going to have a cable channel up and use it for anything that it should be done with both townships. The discussion amongst the Board regarding broadcasting these meetings was premature. We didn’t even have the channel. People had various concerns. I think it was more that the Board didn’t want to make that decision at that time because it was premature. There were concerns but I didn’t hear any concerns over the content. This Board wants to communicate with the public in any way that we can. Our actions have backed that up. Communication has been our focus.

Dr. Shapiro stated that we will see in another month or so, how that falls out.

Ms. DeLuca replied to Mrs. Callahan. At the time, it was proposed as a hypothetical question: “If we were to have cable would we want the Board meetings televised?” People for differing reasons had feelings one way or the other. Mrs. Galbraith and I being the camera shy ones didn’t want to be on television but saw the overriding benefits to televising meetings so that it would reach more constituents. The problem with that is that the rest of the Board members just felt that there needed to be more research and it boiled down to why talk about this now when we haven’t gotten as far as having cable. We really never resolved which particular direction we would go with it. We just let every Board member speak to it and we moved on.

Joseph Talento from Marple Township stated that he has been coming to Board meetings for many years. Historically, a tape was made of meetings. Initially, students from the High School’s audio visual program were responsible for taping the meetings and later it went to several members of the community who would tape it with their own personal equipment and those tapes were taken to Marple Township.

Kristy Luke from Marple Township stated that she has recently moved to the township from Springfield. I was shocked to find out that we did not have a school channel and so I am very glad to see that we are moving toward that. I also was surprised that there was discussion about whether or not the Board would be airing the meetings. Springfield airs the meetings live and then shows them throughout the week. I found them to be very informative. Another positive aspect to airing the meetings is that I have a seven year old who is in first grade at Russell and she has asked me, “Mommy, what does a school board do?” If I could sit her down and let her watch a Board meeting, I could explain to her who all of you are and what a school board does.

Mr. Partridge stated that the value of the cable channel goes much further than this meeting. The value of making the announcements, all the communication from the schools for the 3,500 students that go home to their parents on a daily basis, emergency announcements, etc. is a much greater value to me than the meetings. Not to say that we are not going to tape meetings, we might decide to do that. The value is not just this meeting because there are many ways to get this information. It is those other announcements and sporting events, etc. that better communicate with the students, their families and the entire community.

Motions

No comments were heard.

New Business

No comments were heard.

CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION AND TECHNOLOGY

Items for Board Discussion

- **Classrooms for the Future Grant**

Mr. Piecara gave a slide presentation regarding the Classrooms of the Future Initiative. We were just awarded this grant within the past several months. The Governor had the Legislature commit \$200 million over three years to support the infusion of technology into the classroom. We are talking about transforming our High School by improving teaching and learning in our four core curriculum areas (English, Math, Social Studies and Science) and preparing our students for tomorrow's post secondary and workforce opportunities. This fits very nicely with our vision for the district over the next several years. We have \$200 million available through the state for specific hardware purchases within the classrooms. There is additional money for professional development. What we received is enough funding to produce 13 "smart" classrooms. A "smart" classroom has a laptop computer on every desk, the teacher has a laptop, printer and scanner, it has internet access 24/7, it has projection devices, it has interactive screens and a lot of opportunities for students to take what they learn and apply it in real-time problem solving situations. We plan on having three "smart" classrooms in English, Social Studies and Science. In Math we will add a fourth. There is an extensive professional development commitment that we made for our teachers and for the leaders in our district. Each teacher who will receive a "smart" classroom is required by the grant to undergo a minimum of 30 hours of online instruction. On site, the Classrooms of the Future Grant provides a coach, data driven needs, assessment and strategic recommendations. We are working with our faculty to increase the use of data to drive instruction. We received \$341,000. One of our major goals is to increase student performance.

Mrs. Galbraith stated that she has heard talk that the infrastructure at the High School can't support all of this equipment. Can we handle all of the new equipment?

Mr. Violanti replied that we will make investments out of the Technology Plan money that has already been set aside to set up the necessary wireless infrastructure to support all of the equipment and that will also integrate as many new network connections as we can to support that wireless network and ensure that the bandwidth is there and available to support them.

- **Ice Hockey**

Mrs. Horowitz stated that Mr. Piecara had prepared a comparison chart for the Board last week about all of the different schools in Delaware County and the region that have ice hockey teams.

Mr. Shin asked if we could share some of that information because some audience members may not know what is going on.

Mrs. Horowitz stated that there were eight or nine different districts that we researched in terms of support provided to the ice hockey teams. They are as follows:

<u>School</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>District Contribution</u>	<u>Coaches/Clearance</u>	<u>Insurance</u>	<u>Adhere To</u>
Conestoga	Club	\$325/athlete Letters & Certificates	district hires/pays	notarized proof	PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Springfield	Varsity Sport	\$7,500/ice time transports team on buses	district hires	National Ice Hockey Assoc.	PIAA Eligibility discipline code

Sun Valley	Club	no monetary support Awards given	have clearances	National Ice Hockey Assoc.	PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Upper Darby	Club	no monetary support Letters & Certificates	district doesn't get involved		PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Haverford	Club	\$1,800 Letters & Certificates	district is involved with clearances		PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Strathhaven	no status	\$7,000 Varsity Letters	district doesn't get involved		PIAA Eligibility (not discipline code)
Penncrest	Club	some monetary Support/awards	district is involved with clearances		PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Ridley	Club	uniforms every four years	hockey board manages clearances		(not PIAA or discipline code)
Harriton	Varsity Sport	\$8,000 awards/transportation	district hires/pays		PIAA Eligibility discipline code
Radnor	Varsity Sport	20% operating costs awards/transportation	district hires/ gets clearances		PIAA Eligibility discipline code
MNHS		Letters & Certificates Pictured in yearbook	hockey board approves coaches/clearances	National Ice Hockey Assoc.	(not PIAA or discipline code)

Mr. Partridge asked if ice hockey is officially a club sport.

Mrs. Horowitz replied no.

Mr. Partridge asked what it would take to make it a club sport.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that they would have to complete a charter through student counsel and obtain a teacher or educator as their sponsor. In addition, they would need to adhere to PIAA Eligibility, our High School Discipline Policy and our attendance requirements for all of our athletes.

Mr. Partridge stated that we treat it as a club sport. We put them in our yearbook and get involved in transporting for the playoffs.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that the ice hockey team has been an unofficial club. It is not a "true to the procedures" club sport to date.

Mr. Partridge proposed that the coaches move forward to officially make this a club sport. Then, I would propose that the district provide them with \$5,000 annually.

Dr. Shapiro stated that when we talk about clearances, are we talking about the same clearances that are required for teachers and staff who come in contact with our students.

Mrs. Horowitz replied yes, criminal, child abuse and now the FBI check.

Dr. Shapiro stated that this would not be USA Hockey clearances. This would go well beyond that. Are you gentlemen (Buzz Weinckowski and Larry Patrick) aware of that?

Buzz Weinckowski replied yes.

Dr. Shapiro stated that he understands that there have been business sponsorships of the club. From last year, can you speak to the number of sponsors you had and how much money came into that and at what levels of the organization was that money disbursed? Did you do an elementary program, a middle school program and a high school program?

Buzz Weinckowski replied that last year was the first year that we really went out to focus on getting support from local businesses. The reason we did that was 1) we felt that we were going to get a really good team and 2) we wanted to bring a little more attention to our team. We went out and got a third set of jerseys for our team and we overextended on the cost. We were about \$2,000 in the red for doing that. The quickest way for us to make that up was to advertise on the back of our t-shirts. We got between 9 and 11 local businesses that contributed money to us to advertise on the back of our t-shirts. We made 300 t-shirts and gave them out to everybody who was associated with the hockey program.

Dr. Shapiro asked if they still do the student tag day.

Buzz Weinckowski replied no, it was not very successful or productive.

Dr. Shapiro stated that with respect to practice time, way back when there were often cases where there were shared practices amongst different levels. What is the organizations practice these days with respect to the High School students? Are they sharing ice time with middle school students or elementary students?

Buzz Weinckowski replied no. Ice time is shared between Varsity and Junior Varsity. After half an hour, the ice is cut in half. There are times when Varsity has the ice to themselves and there are times when Junior Varsity has the ice to themselves. We are averaging 1 ¼ practices a week.

Dr. Shapiro asked if they have any situations any longer where we are mixing the different levels at all.

Larry Patrick replied no.

Dr. Shapiro stated that in the past there were a lot of parents helping out on the ice at various levels. If we go this route, I don't know what you guys do today but that means that everyone who steps out on that ice goes or goes into a locker room in any capacity ends up needing to get clearances.

Buzz Weinckowski replied that USA Hockey's requirements have changed in that in practices and games you have to have a level 4 certification at the high school level to be on the ice or on the bench. Only coaches and assistant coaches are out on the ice.

Dr. Shapiro stated that Mr. Weinckowski is speaking of USA Hockey certification. I am talking about all the child abuse and criminal background clearances. Is that the same thing?

Larry Patrick replied yes.

Buzz Weinckowski asked if we are just talking about High School Ice Hockey.

Dr. Shapiro stated that this is an interesting point. If the Board is going to give the money to the High School and require them to adhere to PIAA requirement then would we want them to apply to the other levels or not?

Larry Patrick stated that if the Board was going to fund, then you could fund strictly the High School Program. In reality that separation is strictly funding for league fees, coaching, etc. We would call it a financial separation that if there was \$5,000 there would be a supporting bill from the league for league fees so that the money is specific to High School so that we don't have to get into those grayer areas.

Dr. Shapiro asked if Mr. Weinckowski and Mr. Patrick would need to change their constitution or charter to accommodate this, given that you have these other levels of the program.

Larry Patrick replied no. The High School program has always followed a different set of rules than middle school or elementary in our club. The biggest thing that is different is that in the High School, you have to be a member of the High School to be on the team. In the middle schools and/or elementary that is not the case.

Dr. Shapiro asked what exactly did we do transportation wise. Was it just last year? What was it?

Mrs. Horowitz replied that it was for a competition at the playoff level after the season had ended.

Larry Patrick stated that they were going to request transportation only for the Flyers Cup if we had to travel. We play in local rinks. The meeting time that we would need to get transportation from the school to the rinks would make us late for games all the time. The kids provide their own transportation to local games.

Dr. Shapiro asked if Mr. Partridge's proposal of \$5,000 includes any transportation that may be come to bear.

Mr. Partridge replied no. He wasn't including transportation.

Dr. Shapiro asked if Administration has a thought on how transportation might be handled in that scenario.

Mrs. Horowitz replied that to date we have helped out with the playoffs or after the season. I would recommend that it be continued separate from the donation towards the support of the team.

Dr. Shapiro stated that the other thing that we had talked about although he doesn't know if we formally asked Mr. Sereni to look into that is that this is a 501C3 organization. Can the school district make a donation like this?

Mr. Sereni replied that only if the school district recognizes the entity as a club can it make a donation. We are really going to be blurring the lines with the 501C3 status. The cleanest thing to do is focus on the High School and have that entity submit the necessary papers to be recognized as a club. This is a situation where we don't want to do things halfway. If our district is providing transportation but we don't recognize the entity as a club, we are exposing ourselves to liability. If the Board is going to do it, let's do it right. The right way to do it is recognize it as a club. That would enable the district to give the funding and that would also impose obligations on the entity that it does not have such as the clearances, PIAA requirements, etc. If all those were honored then the district can treat it like a club and fund it.

Dr. Shapiro stated that it seems to him that this creates somewhat a dilemma for the club because they are a 501C3 in total for your elementary, middle school and high school. I think what Mr. Sereni is indicating is that somehow there needs to be a formal separation.

Buzz Weinckowski replied that in the case of Radnor, there is a formal separation between their high school and their middle school programs.

Dr. Shapiro stated that for your charter and your tax filings and all that sort of stuff...I think what we are saying is that you somehow have to separate it. Don't you?

Mr. Shin asked what Mr. Weinckowski and Mr. Patrick would like to see happen.

Buzz Weinckowski stated that they had put a proposal out for a donation of league fees or annual fees.

Mr. Shin asked if they are looking to become a recognized club of the district or looking to become a recognized Varsity Sport of the district at the High School level.

Buzz Weinckowski replied yes and no. There is a certain autonomy that we appreciate by doing things the way we do it. We would like to see it become a Varsity Sport at some point. Is it something that we realistically think could happen tonight? No. We were under the assumption that we had been a club sport.

Mr. Shin asked why not a Varsity Sport.

Larry Patrick replied that it is not a PIAA recognized sport.

Mr. Shin replied that other school districts recognize it as a Varsity Sport. Have we looked into having ice hockey as a Varsity Sport at the high school?

Mr. Driscoll asked if Title 9 comes into play anywhere if it is a club.

Mr. Partridge replied that we are treating it as a club right now.

Mr. Shin asked if the High School team was recognized as a Varsity Sport then it would seem that a lot of issues on the school district side could be resolved. I wonder if the 501C3 part of it could still be maintained with respect to the elementary and middle school level athletes because it's still a community-based program more than anything else.

Larry Patrick replied absolutely.

Mr. Shin asked if the Board has thought about making the High School level a Varsity Sport of Marple Newtown.

Mr. Partridge stated that this is a good idea. Maybe the right way to go is for Mr. Weinckowski and Mr. Patrick to get it recognized as an official club, take the donation if we decide to give it and then take some time and look into meeting with the administration about the possibility of becoming a Varsity Sport.

Mr. Shin asked how much more work would it take to look into if it can be a Varsity Sport.

Mrs. Horowitz stated that there are different implications if it is a Varsity Sport inter-scholastic. In our association contract we have extra pay units for paying coaches and there is a certain supplement amount of money that a coach would receive. Right now, that is not in our association contract. We have two years left on that if we were to go that route. We would need to sit down with the association and add ice hockey as a supplemental unit and in that regard, the way we would advertise for coaches is through our human resources department. Coaches would have to be evaluated by Mr. Reardon, our athletic director. There are different implications for a Varsity Sport versus that. We usually completely assume financial responsibility for our Varsity Sports and from what these gentlemen have said it is quite expensive as a sport. It is certainly something that we could analyze. I would be happy to work with these gentlemen, Mr. Piecara and Mr. Sanville to analyze for the Board what those implications would be.

Dr. Shapiro stated that there are very active booster associations which kick in an awful lot of money to certain varsity sports because the district, right, wrong or different isn't viewed as paying everything. When we are

talking support of Varsity Sports, I think we need to be a little careful about how we characterize that. I guess the other thing is that if we go down the route of club, if you gentlemen want to go down that route, we need to know what the implications are with respect to parental complaints. Right now, the coaches and your board deal with parental complaints. If we are in a situation where you formally become a club and Mr. Reardon is playing a role there, does that mean parents can call up and lodge their complaints with Mr. Reardon and then he has to deal with it. You may not like what he says. It is the law of unintended consequences, guys. You may like the money but you may not like the stuff that comes along with it.

Larry Patrick replied that ultimately the board of the club may say that they are not interested anyway. There are certain requirements of coaches through USA Hockey who is the governing board. You can't just grab any guy to be the coach. He has to have a level 4 which means he has three years of work to do to get to that level.

Mr. Partridge stated that hearing what Mr. Sereni said earlier, by putting the team in the yearbook and by transporting the team which we have done and the team not being considered a club we are open right now. It is in our best interest to have these guys as quickly as possible do what they need to do to become an official recognized club and I think we should give them \$5,000 to help offset their fees. If it stays the way it is right now, there might be some risk for the district.

Mr. Shin stated that if it stays the way it is now, they would have to be pulled out of the yearbook and they can't be provided transportation.

Dr. Shapiro stated that previous Boards have said, "Yeah, we will agree to put your picture in the yearbook." Previous Boards have done that. They gave letters and all that. Previous Boards have opened us up to the issue.

Mr. Partridge stated that we need this team to become a club.

Dr. Shapiro replied that he doesn't disagree but wants to make sure that the ice hockey board fully understands the implications.

Mr. Shin asked if the ice hockey board still operates or governs that club if it becomes an officially recognized club.

Mr. Sereni replied that if it were a school-sponsored club then the school district would basically control. Your board would be able to still operate the 501C3 that you have and make contributions, make donations and things like that but one of the consequences of the School Board recognizing it as a club is that the district would exercise control over it just like any other club. That is something that the ice hockey board needs to weigh.

Buzz Weinckowski replied that is why they are here. We are not worried that there is something that will be out of our control, so to say. If we have to answer to a code of conduct, I think we have done that for the last three years anyway. If a parent would call to complain, they will call Dennis Reardon up and then Dennis Reardon is going to have to sit down with myself and Larry Patrick and either chastise us or find out what the reason is for what happened and we will try to give the best explanation we can as a coaching staff. If he is not happy with that and he wants to get rid of us as a coach then he gets rid of us as a coach. That also falls to the fact that he would have to find a new coach.

Mr. Sokorai stated that we could either put this on the next agenda and vote to give some money contingent upon club status or we can wait until the association comes back to us and says yes we want club status and deal with it at that time.

Buzz Weinckowski stated that they are representing the club asking for that now.

Mr. Partridge asked if they want club status.

Buzz Weinckowski replied yes. We were under the impression that we already had club status.

Mr. Shin stated that he would like to see a motion on the next agenda for \$10,000.

Mrs. Galbraith seconded.

The Gauntlett Center lost power at 8:38pm.

Mrs. Horowitz stated that Mr. Weinckowski and Mr. Patrick should set up an appoint with Mr. Sanville regarding acquiring club status.

Buzz Weinckowski agreed. Dave Vosheski has already expressed an interest in sponsoring the ice hockey club.

Ms. DeLuca adjourned the meeting at 8:44pm.

Respectfully submitted by Heather Welsh, Confidential Secretary to the Board.