





Jim Gildea (Co Chair) George Kurtyka (Secretary) Barbara DeGennaro Tara Hyder Ronald Luneau, Jr

ANSONIA DERBY TEMPORARY REGIONAL SCHOOL STUDY COMMITTEE

Monday, April 22, 2019 Derby Middle School

MINUTES

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

Roll Call

Ansonia members:

John Izzo - Co Chair present
Steven Adamowski – TreasurerLorie Vaccaro present
Joseph Jaumann present
Tracey DeLibero excused

Derby Members:

Jim Gildea - Co Chair present George Kurtyka – Secretary present Tara Hyder present

Ronald Luneau, Jr arrived at 7:10 p.m. Barbara DeGennaro arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Also present

Richard Dunne, NVCOG director

John DiCarlo, NVCOG director of Municipal Shared Services

Sam Ribnick, senior director of District Management Group

Robbie Havdala, director of District Management Group (via video conference)

Simone Carpenter, senior associate of District Management Group (via video conference)

Dr. Matthew Conway - Derby Superintendent of Schools

Public Portion

No one came forward.

Approval of minutes

Motion by George Kurtyka and seconded by Lorie Vaccaro. Move to approve the minutes of February 11, 2019, as written. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Dr. Adamowski was excused. Mr. DiCarlo submitted a spreadsheet accounting of expenditures to date. Mr. Dunne noted that published legal notices for requests for proposals were paid through the NVCOG

<u>District Management Group (DMG)</u>

DMG representatives Robbie Havdala and Simone Carpenter were present via video conference. As per their timeframe:

Phase 1.1 Project Initiation

Phase 1.2 Develop Understanding of Current Context

- Data request
- Focus groups and interviews

Phase 1.3 Begin Conducting Analysis (started in April 2019)

- •SPA –Facilities survey
- •MMI –Projections of enrollment
- •DMG –Analysis of:
 - Programs and services
 - Staffing needs and deployment
 - Special education
- Transportation

Phase 1.4 –1.8 Create and Present Task 1 Report on Regionalization Advisability (projected to be accomplished by October 2019)

Data collection from both cities is finished. The focus groups included Derby Board of Education Members, Board of Alderman / City Council Members, District Administrators, School Administrators, School Staff, Students and Parents & Community Members. Arrangements to meet with Ansonia Board of Education members have yet to be rescheduled.

Focus group discussion included

- What are some potential benefits to regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are some **potential challenges** to regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are some of the academic, financial, and political implications to regionalizing or not regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are the strengths and challenges in each district?
- How could each district benefit from shared services?
- Where are there similarities and differences across Ansonia and Derby Public Schools?
- What are the programs and services provided in each district?
- How are staff deployed within each district?
- What are the **financial implications** to regionalizing or not regionalizing Ansonia and Derby Public Schools, over the next 5 years?
- What are the **district policies** in each district that may impact the advisability of regionalizing?

DMG will be collecting from both cities:

- Historical & Projected Budget
- Capital Expenditure Projects

- District Policies
- Union Contracts
- Demographic & Enrollment Projections
- School Boundaries
- Grant Budgets
- School Site Budgets
- HR Data
- Academic Achievement Data

Milone & MacBroom Inc. (MMI) will be analyzing demographic and housing trends in each community as well as enrollment trends for each school district. They will prepare 10 year enrollment projections on a facility basis for each district.

Silver/Petrucelli & Associates (SPA) will be performing the facilities survey and create a list of needs and deficiencies.

Members raised questions. There were questions as to why the focus group data collection had not been accomplished with the Ansonia Board of Education and why there has been no administrative representation at previous meetings of this committee. Mr. Izzo indicated that there appears to be a miscommunication with the Board of Education regarding time and date and arrangements are still being coordinated with them. He was hopeful for increased participation as the Committee moves forward. Members encouraged DMG to reach out once again to make the arrangements.

Members discussed the parameters of the scope of the study, how the information will be presented and the steps in the process. Mr. Havdala indicated that he and the other consultants will be actively engaging with the Committee members throughout the next few months as the report preparations are underway.

It was noted that a copy of the Power Point presentation is on Derby's Board of Education website.

Point of Good of the Order and Public Portion

Committee members had no comment.

Laura Lane of Ansonia understands there is difficulty getting information from the Board of Education and wondered if there were any other difficulties with the Ansonia administration. Mr. Havdala and Ms. Carpenter indicated that they have gathered information from the administration. She asked for a copy of the presentation.

It was noted that a copy of the Power Point presentation is on Derby's Board of Education website.

No one else from the committee or the public came forward.

Motion by George Kurtyka and seconded by Tracey DeLibero. Move to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 PM. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted; Karen Kemmesies