

July 19, 2017

The Signal Mountain School System Viability Committee held a meeting on
Wednesday, July 19, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

Those present were: Committee Chair John Friedl
 Committee Vice Chair Tom McCullough
 Committee Member Thomas Peterson
 Committee Member Charles Spencer
 Committee Member Susan Speraw
 Committee Member Amy Wakim
 Committee Member Melissa Wood

Others in attendance: Mayor Chris Howley
 Town Council member and committee liaison Amy Speak
 Town Manager Boyd Veal

See attachment for others in attendance.

Committee Chair John Friedl called the meeting to order and the roll was taken. The agenda called for the approval of the previous meeting minutes. Thomas Peterson moved to approve the minutes, Tom McCullough seconded the motion. All in attendance approved, and the motion carried.

Charles Spencer shared his desire and reasoning for requesting that HCDE review the budget we've created. Susan Speraw asked for a summary of what information was learned by the Budget Sub-committee from the Tennessee Department of Education during their review of the committee's work. Tom McCullough gave a brief explanation of the state's review.

Charles Spencer motioned to send our latest budget to HCDE for analysis, review, and comment. John Friedl seconded the motion.

After a lengthy discussion, the motion carried 6-1 with committee members John Friedl, Amy Wakim, Charles Spencer, Tom McCullough, Thomas Peterson, and Melissa Wood voting in the affirmative and Susan Speraw voting against the motion.

The committee then discussed the Quality Questionnaire that went live on Survey Monkey. Susan Speraw gave instructions on how to access the survey. Community members are encouraged to go the Signal Mountain Town Website, click the link to our committee on the homepage, then click the link to the survey from the committee's page. She then gave an update on the responses from the survey. She relayed to the committee that several teachers were upset that they were not asked directly to complete the survey. It was then brought to the committee's attention by Town Manager Veal that the survey was not distributed through the district communication system as the committee originally intended. Veal continued sharing his communication with Dr. McDade and explained HCDE's response to why it was not distributed. A representative from the town will contact Dr. McDade to see if it is possible to have each

principal distribute the survey through the email system and through the "All-Call" system that calls and texts the members of the distribution list.

The committee will reconsider the date to close the survey at the next meeting.

Dr. Friedl shared an update on his responses from the questions from the website.

Amy Wakim gave an overview of our budget, explaining the process of how we came to our budget.

The committee briefly discussed post retirement employee benefits.


The meeting concluded with a plan for the upcoming meeting schedule. The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held August 2, 2017 at 7:00 PM. There will be no meeting on Wednesday, September 6, and a subcommittee meeting will occur on September 20, 2017, time TBA.

Dr. McCullough asked for clarification on the open records request. Committee members requested a better explanation on what specifically needed to be submitted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



John Friedl, Committee Chair



Recorder