

August 16, 2017

The Signal Mountain School System Viability Committee held a meeting on
Wednesday, August 16, 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 Speek
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. Amy Wakim moved to approve the minutes, Thomas Peterson seconded the motion. All in attendance approved, and the motion carried.

Committee member Susan Speraw shared the quality committee survey responses. She identified 5 different categories which the survey answers fall. These include morale and school spirit, substance abuse issues, teachers both positive and negative, special education and the need for improvement, and teacher professional development. She noted there have been some comments about racism as well as the need for the professional development to be improved.

So far 70 teachers had responded to the survey. She explained the challenge of sending an email about the survey directly to teachers.

Mayor Howley read a proclamation to honor Times Free Press writer Kendi Rainwater for her work as she will be leaving her position to pursue higher education. See attachment.

Committee member Amy Wakim presented information from a meeting with Dr. McDade and other HCDE personnel. She reviewed the changes made to the budget based on this meeting. She shared the following data with the group: based on a revenue of 20.7 million, budget one accounts for 18.8 million in expenditures, budget two includes every item from budget one plus every dollar currently spent by MEF. This budget accounts for 19.4 million in expenditures. Budget one has 1.9 million of flexibility, budget two has approximately 1.25 million of flexibility.

The committee will postpone the discussion on risk analysis.

Committee chair John Friedl recommended a change in the meeting schedule. A meeting to finalize the budget and create the budget narrative will occur on September 20. A meeting to review a draft of the final report will occur on September 27. October 4 will be the committee's latest date to finalize a report.

Committee member Susan Speraw shared that the survey responses reflect a lot of misinformation in the community.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



John Friedl, Committee Chair

Recorder

TOWN OF SIGNAL MOUNTAIN, TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Kendi Anderson Rainwater has worked as the education reporter for the Chattanooga Times Free Press since 2015; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainwater will be leaving Chattanooga and returning to school to further her education; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainwater was named by the Associated Press "Journalist of the Year" for the state of Tennessee and has earned two first-place honors for investigative reporting from the Society of Professional Journalists Green Eyeshade Awards; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Rainwater has provided a valuable service to the citizens of the Town of Signal Mountain through her thorough and professional reporting of events and issues relating to and impacting the education of our community's children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Chris Howley, wish to commend Ms. Rainwater for a job well done and express great appreciation for her service and friendship to the Town of Signal Mountain and our citizens.

Proclaimed and conferred this 16th day of August, 2017

Chris J. Howley, Mayor
