

Permanent Committee to Study the Needs & Use of Town Public Buildings
Special Meeting Minutes
Stonington High School, Pawcatuck, CT
Tuesday, April 9, 2019
6:15 p.m.

The Permanent Committee to Study the Needs & Use of Town Public Buildings held a special meeting on this date, Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. at the Stonington High School.

Members present were Paul Sartor, Acting Chairman; Sandy Grimes, Don Maranell, Alisa Morrison, Chris Donahue and Jean Fiore. Also present were John Prue, Stonington Selectman and Board of Selectmen Liaison to the Committee, Rob Simmons, Stonington First Selectman, Sandy Tissiere and Sue Jones

Members absent: Bill King

1. Call to order

Acting Chairman Paul Sartor called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The group joined together for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Comments from the Public

Rob Simmons said, as First Selectman, he thanked everyone on the committee for volunteering for this very challenging task. Mr. Simmons said the task at hand will be West Broad Street School as the Stonington Board of Education will meet on April 25, 2019 to vote on turning the school over to the town and the status of the children who attend that school. Mr. Simmons said there will be a walkthrough of the West Broad Street School on Wednesday at 1:00 p.m. and asked for two committee members to volunteer to go. Mr. Simmons said the committee should be available to the community to find out what they would like to see happen to West Broad Street School. Mr. Simmons spoke of the small size of the committee and the importance of the members of the committee working together for a common goal.

The committee discussed their responsibilities as a committee, the various buildings in the town that need to be considered and the various town entities that will be working with the committee.

Sue Jones said she has always lived and went to school in Pawcatuck and the West Broad Street School is a part of neighborhood that is unlike any other in the town. Ms. Jones suggested before the committee does anything, they should visit the neighborhood and talk to the people who live there to see what they think. Ms. Jones said she would like respect for neighborhood opinion and listen to them as well as the community.

The committee concurred they agreed with Ms. Jones and realize the importance of the community being involved in the decision of what happens to West Broad Street School.

4. Approval of minutes

There were not any minutes for approval.

5. Correspondence

No correspondence.

6. Old Business

No discussion.

7. New Business

• **Discussion – Set Regular Meetings Schedule to include time and place**

Alisa Morrison made a motion and Chris Donahue seconded to set the meeting schedule for the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.

Aye: Paul Sartor, Don Maranell, Chris Donahue and Alisa Morrison

Abstained: Sandy Grimes

At 7:05 p.m. Mr. Grimes requested the vote be amended in the record to unanimous.

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- **Appointment – Recording Secretary**

Chris Donahue made a motion and Sandy Grimes seconded to appoint Sandy Tissiere as Recording Secretary. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

- **Discussion – Appointment of Permanent Chair (Vice Chair?)**

Don Maranell made a motion and Alisa Morrison seconded to table this item. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

- **Discussion – New Name “Stonington Public Buildings Committee” moved to Special Town Meeting on April 11th**

The committee discussed options for the change of the name for the committee. The vote on the change of the name will be on the agenda at the Special Town Meeting on April 11, 2019. If the committee has a recommendation for a name, a committee member would need to be present at the meeting to move this recommendation. Alisa Morrison will attend the Thursday night meeting to move the recommendation.

Alisa Morrison made a motion and Sandy Grimes seconded to recommend to amend the committee name to the Stonington Facilities Committee.

Discussion: Alisa Morrison asked if the name Stonington should be in the name. The committee discussed the necessity of Stonington being in the name to identify the town to avoid confusion in news articles and public documents. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

- **Discussion – Review Mission Statement and Implementation**

Tabled at this time.

- **Discussion – Schedule visit to WBSS and the Old Mystic Central Office Building**

The committee discussed when they would tour the West Broad Street School. The committee will tour the facility when alternate member, Bill King, returns as he knows the building from his previous position with the school district as Operations and Facilities Director.

The committee discussed alternates and their responsibility on the committee. The committee concurred if a committee member is absent, an alternate would be seated. The order of the seating of alternates would be they would take turns.

8. **Comments from the Public**

No comments from the public.

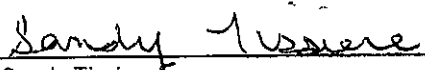
9. **Comments from the Committee**

Alisa Morrison asked when the committee tours West Broad Street School would the committee then drive to the Central Administration building for a tour. Paul Sartor answered the Central Administration has not been turned over to the town yet and is still in operation. Chris Donahue asked the subject of a public forum be put on the next agenda. Paul Sartor said public meetings are important and the committee should consider what these meetings would look like. Sandy Grimes suggested some public meetings occur during the day. The committee concurred public outreach is important. John Prue discussed the importance of not getting into discussion with people via email, to direct questions and items to be put on the agenda to the committee Chairman. John Prue will check with the town IT department regarding town email addresses for the committee. The committee discussed the option of having an open house at West Broad Street School.

10. **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Don Maranell and seconded by Alisa Morrison to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m. The vote was unanimous and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:


Sandy Tissiere
Recording Secretary