

**West Tisbury Finance Committee Meeting
Howes House**

September 11, 2018

Attendance

Committee: Greg Orcutt – Vice Chair, Jane Dreeben, Chuck Hodgkinson, Doug Ruskin

Absent: Gary Montrowl – Chair

Guests: Bruce Stone – Town Accountant, Skip Manter – Selectman

Vice Chairman Greg Orcutt called the meeting to order at 5:02pm.

Approval of Minutes

Doug moved to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2018 meeting as amended. Chuck seconded the motion which passed unanimously, 4-0.

Old Business

ACE MV

Chuck reminded the Committee of the All Island Finance Committee meeting on September 27 at 5:30pm which will be held in the Edgartown selectmen room. Chuck said the primary agenda item is ACE MV and both executive director Sam Hart and board chair Don Leopold from ACE MV will attend the meeting as will school superintendent Matt D'Andrea and assistant superintendent Richie Smith. For the second agenda item, Chuck said Dan Doyle, regional planner of the Martha's Vineyard Commission who is working with the Healthy Aging task force to create a list of services available to identify duplicate services will also speak to the AIFC.

Questions from the Committee included whether it was too late for grants for ACE MV this fiscal year, paring down the curriculum and the pricing of courses.

New Business

UIRSD School Costs and Allocation Formula

Doug said attended the latest meeting.

Bruce said he looked at the WT school as having two components – k through 5 and 6 through 8 and then compared the k through 5 programs at the two schools. Doug said using that comparison for the current budget year, Aquinnah and Chilmark's combined costs would increase by \$30,000 and West Tisbury's cost would decrease by \$30,000.

Doug said that Bruce pointed out to the allocation formula committee that if West Tisbury were to withdraw from the district, savings may not be significant due to Chilmark's contribution to the West Tisbury school budget. Doug said that when the allocation committee looked at Chilmark picking up the entire cost of the Chilmark school, there would be significant savings.

Further discussion included the high cost per pupil, school choice costs, charter school impact on costs and how a regional district has the ability to spend without town approval.

All Island School Negotiating Committee

Chuck informed the Committee he sent school superintendent, Matt D'Andrea a two page list of questions and the superintendent answered most of them. Chuck said he was still waiting for information on FY2018 student population for every classroom of every school by grade. Chuck also said he asked for a value of the current teachers contract for FY17, FY18 and FY19 by line item.

There was a discussion about cost per pupil and Chuck explained that nowhere in the contract does it say there is a limit on how many students in a classroom before a teacher's aid is added, but the contract states it will be evaluated.

Other questions from the Committee included the topics of COLA, vision for the current base, current rank of MVRHS and how do Martha's Vineyard school scores rank in relation to the state.

Administrative Assistant Position

Greg distributed a job description for the position. There was a discussion about the job description, pay range, and advertising. Chuck said he would place the appropriate advertisements and the Committee set the application deadline as September 27, 2018 at 4pm.

Any Topic Not Anticipated by the Chair

No discussion.

Correspondence/Scheduling

The next meeting of the Fin Com was confirmed for Tuesday, October 9 at 5pm. The next AIFC meeting is September 27, 2018 at 5:30pm in the Edgartown selectmen room.

Chuck moved to adjourn. Jane seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Margo Urbany-Joyce, Admin Assistant

Approved 10/9/18

3-0-1 (Gary Montrowl abstained)