

**Act 46 Study Committee - WWSU Executive Committee Joint Meeting**  
**13 April 2016**  
**Harwood Library**  
**5:30 PM**

**Approved Minutes**

**Attendance**

**Study Committee:** Jill Ellis (Fayston), Rosemarie White (Harwood ex-officio), Garrett MacCurtain (Harwood ex-officio, left at 8:30), Gabe Gilman (Moretown), Christine Sullivan (Waitsfield), Alycia Biondo (Warren), Alex Thomsen (W-D for Waterbury), Jason Gibbs (W-D for Waterbury, arrived 5:55pm), Sam Jackson (W-D for Duxbury, arrived 6:16pm)

**WWSU Executive Board:** Doug Mosle (Fayston), Rosemarie White (Harwood), Garrett MacCurtain (Harwood), Kate O'Neill (Moretown), Christine Sullivan (Waitsfield), Alycia Biondo (Warren), Jason Gibbs (Waterbury- Duxbury), Alex Thomsen (Waterbury-Duxbury)

**Other Board Members:** Jen Watkins (Warren), Jeremy Gulley (Waitsfield), Jim Casey (Waterbury)

**Administration:** Brigid Nease, Superintendent; Michelle Baker, WWSU Director of Finance and Operations

**Consultants:** Jeff Maher

**Public:** MRV-TV camera operator, Lara Seaberg, minute taker

**Call to order:** Chair Gabe Gilman called the Study Committee meeting to order at 5:48 PM. Christine Sullivan called the Executive Committee meeting to order at 5:48 PM

**Approval of Minutes:** Garrett MacCurtain approved the minutes of the 31 March 2016 Study Committee meeting with the amendment of adding Matt Staples to the attendance list. Alycia Biondo seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Garrett MacCurtain approved the minutes of the 18 February 2016 Executive Committee meeting as written and Alycia Biondo seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**WWSU Board Warrants:** Rosemarie White made a motion to confirm WWSU Board Warrant 1150 in the amount of \$21,917.72. Christine Sullivan seconded and the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

## **Board Warrants**

### **FY 2015-2016**

1150 4/13/16 \$ 21,917.72

**TOTAL BOARD WARRANTS \$ 21,917.72**

**Review and Accept FY 2015 Financial Audit:** Rosemarie White moved to accept the FY 2015 Financial Audit and Alycia Biondo seconded. The motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

**Adjournment of Executive Committee:** On a motion by Christine Sullivan the WWSU Executive Committee voted to adjourn at 5: 50 PM.

### **Study Committee Discussion Items:**

- 1. Updates/Reports on the Articles of Agreement and Reports submitted to AOE:**  
There was a discussion on the Articles of Agreement. On Tuesday, 19 April 2016, at 2:45 PM there is a State Board of education meeting at the Capital Plaza. Brigid Nease, Michelle Baker and Christine Sullivan will attend. The Articles of Agreement will be approved by the SBE.
- 2. Discuss Warren Select Board Meeting:** Gabe Gilman notified the Committee of the letter and what it said.
- 3. Updates/Reports from Consultants:** Jeff Maher informed the Committee of the recent Act 46 votes in Lamoille North and Addison-Rutland. Gabe Gilman read community member email questions to the Act 46 Committee.
- 4. Updates/Reports from Administration:** Brigid Nease discussed what still needs to be done before the vote on 7 June 2016. Some of the issues include communications and coordinating with town clerks. School boards warn the Articles of Agreement and Public Informational Hearings for the proposed Harwood Union Unified School District.  
The dates are:
  - Duxbury, 25 April (CBMS 5:00pm)
  - Warren, 26 April
  - Fayston, 28 April
  - Waitsfield, 4 May (special meeting);
  - Moretown, 5 May
  - Waterbury, TBA.

Town informational hearings will be held on the following dates:  
Waterbury- 31 May at local school, 5:30 PM.

Duxbury- 31 May at local school, 6:30 PM.  
Moretown- 1 June at local school, 5:30 PM.  
Waitsfield- 1 June at local school, 6:30 PM.  
Fayston- 2 June at local school, 6:30 PM.  
Warren- 6 June at local school, 6:00 PM.

Voting locations for the vote as are as follows:

Duxbury- Crossett Brook Middle School.  
Fayston- Fayston Elementary  
Moretown- Moretown Elementary  
Waitsfield- Waitsfield Elementary  
Warren- Warren Elementary.  
Waterbury- Municipal Building.

Advertising for new unified school board positions will go out next week in the Valley Reporter and the Waterbury Record for 3 weeks as well as on local Front Porch Forum pages and school email lists. Unified school board member ballots will be available at town clerks' offices.

5. **Debrief of Forum #1 and planning for Forum #2 on 27 April 2016:** Jeff Maher gave a presentation on what did and did not work well during the public forum on 31 March 2016. Suggestions included establishing ground rules, moderators and time limits. There was discussion on the presentation and suggestions.
6. **Identify next steps for Individual Town Story Cards:** The town story cards will be put onto the SU website once they have been reviewed.
7. **Update and continue to develop communication plans:** Brigid Nease and Michelle Baker are working on a flyer to be sent out to parents digitally. It could also be put into the newspapers as a one page advertisement for a cost of \$909. Brigid Nease asked for volunteers for a subcommittee to work on the flyer and advertisement. Jason Gibbs and Alycia Biondo will form the subcommittee. There was discussion concerning where the public forum will be held. Alycia Biondo moved to hold the forum at the Big Picture on 25 May 2016. Sam Jackson seconded and the motion passed with one opposing vote by Alex Thomsen. Rosemarie White will look into banners and signs to be used as reminders of the vote. Brigid Nease shared that she will be writing an Op Ed on the next steps before the vote the week after the April school break.
8. **Prepare for the SBE meeting on 19 April 2016 at the Capital Plaza, Montpelier:** Gabe Gilman shared that preparations can be made offline.
9. **Other business:** None.

On a motion made by Rosemarie White and seconded by Gabe Gilman the Study Committee voted to adjourn at 9:11 PM.

The next Study Committee meeting is on 27 April 2016 from 5:30 to 6:30 PM at HUHS.  
A Public Forum will follow from 6:30 to 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lara Seaberg  
Minute taker