

Tuesday, March 22, 2005

SAU Office

7 p.m.

MINUTES

Board

Joe MacGregor
Tom Welden,
Dan Harper, Bill McKinnon
Hope Hunt, Nan Fornal
Christy Greene, Ken Young
Tom Lawless, Gail Cromwell

Administration

Keith Burke, Supt
Paul Bartolomucci, Asst
Marian Alese, Bus Adm
Sue Copley, PES
Linda Potter, SpEd

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Joe MacGregor called the meeting to order at 7:01. After the Pledge, Mr. MacGregor noted that this was a special meeting called to discuss one item only.

Public Comment

Joe MacGregor asked if anyone had any comment on the purpose of the meeting. Shelley Nelkens asked if anyone had read the article in the Villager regarding the investigation of SAU administration, then began to read the article to the Board. Joe MacGregor stated that public comment was asked for on matters regarding the agenda for the meeting, and that no personnel matters would be discussed at this meeting. When Ms. Nelkens continued her questions, Joe MacGregor asked the Board to recess to the conference room at 7:10. The meeting was resumed at 7:15. Ms. Nelkens asked when Keith Burke would interview her and Priscilla Martin. Christy Greene noted that there are boundaries within the segment of Public Comment, and Joe MacGregor stated that this segment of the meeting does not include personnel matters.

1. Discussion of New Benefit Plans for Employees

Tom Welden explained that as a result of the successful negotiations with the CVEA the basis for the District's contribution to the employees' health plan would now be a new HMO plan offered thru Local Government Center. It is the Board's intent to make sure that all employees understand the impact of the change, and the available options for health insurance. In addition, employees may now be entitled to a buyback, if they do not take health coverage through the District. Mr. Welden proposed that additional consultants from either Local Government Center or Benefit Strategies be used to hold informational meetings with employees throughout the District. Mr. Welden then went on to explain the different options for health insurance available to employees. After discussion,

Shelley Nelkens asked if the District knew how much money would be saved if subscribers chose generic brand drugs over name brand drugs. Not at this time, however Tom Welden noted that the change in District contribution was an effort to control rising health insurance costs. It was noted that the new HMO plan would only mean \$750 in out of pocket costs for subscribers. Tom Welden asked if the Board was in favor of hiring a consultant to increase the number of informational meetings for employees. Tom Lawless asked if the Board needed to vote on the matter. Keith Burke stated that he didn't think the matter needed official Board action, unless some had strong objections to the proposal. After discussion, Joe MacGregor stated that the District would use current resources to do as much as possible, but if additional resources were needed to hire a consultant, the Board approved.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 8:25. Second by Ken Young. Unanimous.