

**Rochelle Park Board of Education
Caucus Meeting Minutes – 7:30 P.M.
June 3, 2013**

I. Call to Order and Flag Salute

II. Roll Call

Board Members	Present	Absent
Mr. Jay Esposito, Vice President	X	
Mr. Sam Allos	X	
Mrs. Teresa Cravello		X(arrived 8:02)
Mrs. Maria Lauerman	X	
Mrs. Dimitria Leakas	X	
Mr. Mark Scully	X	
Mrs. Patricia Bilka, President	X	

Others Present:

Bert Ammerman, Interim Superintendent
Vincent Occhino, Interim Business Administrator/Board Secretary
Cara Hurd, Principal
Ellen Kobylarz, Board Recording Secretary
Township Committee Members- Mrs. Ouellette, Mr. Valenzuela, Mr. Kazimir, Mr. Davidson, Mrs. De Maria, (Mayor Scarpa arrived 7:40)

III. Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P. L. 1975 Announcement – by Board President

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, I wish to announce that: “The New Jersey Open Public Meeting Law was enacted to insure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. Notices announcing the date, time and place for this Regular Meeting were sent to all concerned individuals, associations and sent to the The Record and The Our Town, in accordance with Chapter 231, P.L. 1975.

IV. Joint Board Meeting with Township Council

- **9-11 Memorial-** Mr. Valenzuela gave a presentation on the Memorial and artist renditions of the design were on hand. The New Jersey Port Authority made available pieces of steel to communities shortly after 9/11. The piece of steel that Rochelle Park received will be embedded into the monument. It will be similar to other monuments onsite. Revisions will be made to the surrounding landscape. Flags from each branch of the armed forces along, with Rochelle Park Police, Fire and Ambulance will be displayed. So far the committee has raised \$16, 500.00. The biggest donation came from Shop Rite/Glass Gardens for \$10,000.00. The committee is still accepting donations and can be contacted through the Town Hall.

President Bilka asked if any work would be done to the other monuments and would the existing flagpole remain.

Mr. Davidson stated the flagpole remains.

Mr. Valenzuela stated that other work will be done in the area.

Mrs. Lauerman asked about the funding and can outside people solicit funds or only the committee. Is it still on going?

Mr. Valenzuela stated that funds are still being solicited; hopefully a trust fund can be set up to maintain the area.

Mr. Davidson stated he would get a solicitation letter to Mrs. Lauerman. Any private donations can be made payable to the 9/11 Memorial Trust Fund and be dropped off at the Town Hall.

Mr. Esposito commented on the drawings, stating they were much nicer than the original draft proposed.

Mr. Ammerman stated he was pleased to have the joint board meeting and commented that it was nice to have something involving both the town and school together. At this time he also thanked the DPW for their help with the fields. He introduced Ms. O'Brien and Mrs. Leakas who gave a presentation on a proposed 5K Run/Walk.

- **Proposed 5-K Run Sept 2013-** Ms. O'Brien gave a power point presentation on the proposed 5K Run/Walk. The presentation consisted of two location proposals. One running through the county park and the other through the streets in Rochelle Park. It addressed the costs associated with each area. Some will remain the same for both locations, while other costs differ depending on location.

President Bilka- inquired about the insurance liability.

Ms. O'Brien stated the school district and the township would have to carry a rider for the day.

Mayor Scarpa stated the township rider would not be a problem.

Mrs. Cravello asked about the course being certified. Is the certification good for one year or lifetime?

Ms. O'Brien explained as long as the course doesn't change it would be good for the lifetime of the race. Ms. O'Brien relayed the importance of a course certification. Avid runners will look for shorter runs like a 5K to qualify for a larger run and only certified courses are counted for the qualifiers.

Councilman Kazimir- asked where the profit would be used.

Ms. O'Brien stated that some suggestions have been made on having an electronic sign. In essence, the money would be used to buy something for the school.

Mr. Allos- asked Ms. O'Brien to clarify the use of a separate website for this event instead of the school website.

Ms. O'Brien stated that experienced runners will do a Google search for runs taking place in the area and they may not find it under the school website. Better access, if the event had its own website.

Mrs. Leakas stated that as well as the school website having a link to the event page, maybe the town website could also have a link for this event.

Mrs. Vladyka –Offered support from the PTA.

Mrs. Sanchez volunteered her husband stating they have experience in the field of website construction.

Ms. O'Brien listed a number of faculty, parents & student leaders who are willing to help in all areas. She also stated the Friday before they will have a fun run for the students. Cost would be \$5.00 per student.

Mr. Ammerman stated the next step would be for the Township and Board of Education to approve a resolution in order for this to move forward. This is a great opportunity for the Town and School communities to come together and foster better relationships.

Mayor Scarpa- informed the boards that Mr. Ammerman and Mr. Scarpa have been meeting on a regular basis to foster a better relationship. He thanked the Board of Education for hosting this joint meeting and stated the next meeting will be in town hall.

- V. Superintendent's Report,** Mr. Ammerman reported the following:
- Mr. Ammerman thanked Dr. Sacco, the Midland School Band, Prince Seabrooks and the chorus members for their contribution to the Memorial Day service. Mr. Ammerman received numerous positive responses to the performance. This has been the second year in a row the students have performed at the service.
 - One Rochelle Park student- Giovanni Dejesus Padolina is being honored at the Hackensack High School top twenty dinner tonight. Mrs. Cravello is representing the Board of Education at the dinner.
 - On May 30, 2013 the district held its first Kindergarten roundup for incoming Kindergarteners for the 2013-2014 school year. The parents were very appreciative, 75% of the incoming parents are brand new to the school. There will be three sections as our enrollment is going up.
 - There will be a resolution for a second reading and approval of several policies, bylaws and regulations on the agenda.
 - There will be resolutions to reappoint faculty and staff as well as extra-curricular appointments for next year.
 - Kindergarten Graduation will be next Thursday June 13, 2013 at 9:30 AM
- VI. Principal's Report,** Mrs. Hurd reported the following:
- The PTA will be hosting an ice cream social on Wednesday June 19th for all grade levels. This will take the place of class parties on the last day of school.
 - The following are students who have received Positive office referrals for doing good deeds throughout the month;
Matthew Kowalski, Vraj Vyas, Christopher Morrison, Brandon Barroso, Katherine Ruano.
 - Sumer Assignments and supply lists will go home with students on the last day of school.
- VII. Business Administrator's Report,** Dr. Occhino reported the following:
- Resolution to approve the deposit of funds and year end (June 30th) over the two percent surplus limit to be deposited into the Capital reserve account.
 - Resolution to transfer funds.
 - Resolution to adopt a final draft of the business office standard operational manual.

III. Reports – Committee Action Items

ROCHELLE PARK BOARD OF EDUCATION COMMITTEES

Legislation: President Bilka reported: Two pieces of legislation are on the Governor's desk. One has to do with binding arbitration and the second on the district's ability to sub contract out. President Bilka asked the board for their approval in contacting the Governor's office to request the Governor not support these two bills. The board gave President Bilka permission to contact the Governor's office on behalf of the board.

Joint Boards Coordination: Mrs. Cravello reported: Hackensack High School will have their awards ceremony this Thursday, June 13th. Last year \$500,000.00 in scholarships were awarded. The remaining committees deferred to the regular meeting.

IX. Items for Board Action - Resolutions (none needed)

Note: Resolutions marked with an asterisk are as a result of Executive Session Discussion.

X. Open to the Public (Any Item)

During this portion of the meeting, the residents are invited to address the Board with any questions, comments or concerns that may be in respect to the operation of their school.

Motion by Mr. Allos, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to open public comment at 8:43 p.m.
Roll Call 7-0

None

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mr. Scully, to close public comment at 8:45 p.m.
Roll Call 7-0

XI. Other Business

XII. Announcements:

The Regular Meeting will be held on Monday, June 10, 2013. The next Caucus meeting will be held Monday July 15, 2013 at 7:00 P.M. with the regular July board meeting held immediately after. Both meetings will be held in the Media Center. A Board retreat will be held on July 18, 2013.

XIII. Executive Session Announcement (if needed)

WHEREAS, the Rochelle Park Board of Education (hereinafter referred to as the "Board") will convene in Executive Session to discuss confidential matters which include:

Personnel, HIB.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board shall move into Executive Session to discuss the above referenced matter(s).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will provide as much information as possible without violating any applicable privilege or confidentiality so that the public can understand what was discussed and when available what the Board decision was.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the minutes of the executive session will be released to the public in an appropriately redacted form within a reasonable period of time after the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable to such minutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the redacted portion of the executive session minutes will not be released until such time as the privilege or confidentiality is no longer applicable.

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Lauerman, to open Executive Session at 8:48 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mrs. Cravello, seconded by Mrs. Leakas, to close Executive Session at 10:12 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

Motion by Mr. Scully, seconded by Mr. Allos, to resume Regular Meeting Agenda at 10:13 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0

XIV. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Esposito, seconded by Mrs. Cravello, to adjourn meeting at 10:14 p.m.

Roll Call 7-0