

Village of Wellington

*12300 Forest Hill Blvd
Wellington, FL 33414*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

6:30 PM

Village Hall

Education Committee

*Shelly Albright
Donna Baxter
Jana Bolinder
Beth Gillespie
Marcia Hayden
Jennifer Rodriguez
John Webber*

I Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

II Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted.

III Roll Call

Members Present: Jay Webber, Marcia Hayden, Beth Gillespie, Donna Baxter, Jana Bolinder, Shelly Albright, Jennifer Rodriguez.

Staff Present: Paulette Edwards, Staff Liaison; Laura Aldrich, Recording Secretary.

IV Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Baxter nominated Mr. Webber to remain in the position as Chair, seconded by Ms. Hayden. Hearing no other nominations, motion passed unanimously 7-0.

Ms. Hayden nominated Ms. Albright to remain in the position of Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Baxter. Hearing no other nominations, motion passed unanimously 7-0.

V Approval of Agenda

Ms. Hayden made a motion to approve the August 18, 2020 agenda as presented, seconded by Ms. Baxter. Motion passed unanimously 7-0.

VI Opening Comments

Mr. Webber noted that the Committee had last met in early March prior to COVID shutdowns. Schools were slated to begin virtually on August 31st with an option to return to brick and mortar instruction later in the school year. He commented that the County's decision regarding moving to a Phase 2 reopening would impact School Board decisions.

In response to a question from Ms. Hayden regarding the status of this year's Keely Spinelli grant funding, Ms. Edwards responded that she would provide an update under her staff report.

VII Staff Report

Ms. Edwards provided an update on the status of both last year's and this year's Keely Spinelli grant funds. Schools had reported balances remaining from last year's grant funding which they had been advised to begin redirecting. The Village Council had not yet approved the FY21 budget or made a decision regarding any FY21 Keely Spinelli grant funding. Once a decision was made, an update would be provided to the Committee and the school Principals.

The Village had begun serving as a local Feeding South Florida site weekly each Tuesday at the Mall at Wellington Green. Village staff along with volunteers from agencies including the Crowne Pearls and Wellington Rotary distributed 900 vouchers per week to needy families. Distributions were anticipated to continue through the end of 2020.

Community Services continued to conduct virtual programs including Friday Game Nights, SWAG and Civics 101 which was scheduled to begin in September with Palm Beach Central High School. A virtual classroom was being planned to assist children of Village employees with distance learning while parents were at work. The B & G Club had also provided space for 100 children during virtual learning with spaces being reserved for families of first responders. All slots were currently full. The Department had also held the annual Back to School backpack as a drive-thru event with distribution to pre-registered students.

VIII Old Business

There was no old business.

IX New Business

The Committee reviewed all school liaison assignments for SAC meeting attendance.

Mr. Webber suggested having another meeting before October 15th after the start of the school year and asked to have the school principals included.

Ms. Aldrich responded, suggesting either a late September or early October meeting date. Date options would be reviewed and provided to the Committee for approval. It was also suggested that the Committee wait until after Wellington's budget hearings to reconvene.

Ms. Baxter provided an overview of the Spring distance learning and current plans for continued distance learning at the start of school in late August. She advised that the School Board had scheduled a virtual workshop on the 19th to review plans for the new school year. Principals had been tasked with putting together a plan for their individual school which should include the use of masks and social distancing.

Ms. Edwards requested that Mr. Webber and Ms. Baxter provide a summary of the August 19th school board meeting for distribution to the Committee.

X Public Comments

There were no public comments

XI Closing Comments

Mr. Webber welcomed new member Jennifer Rodriguez and thanked Ms. Baxter for the detailed update on the start of the new school year.

XII Adjournment

Ms. Bolinder made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Gillespie. Motion passed unanimously 6-0. Ms. Hayden had left the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm