

Wappingers Central School District Legislative Action Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 29, 2020
3:00 p.m. – Public Session
Roy C. Ketcham HS - Library

Legislative Action Committee Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Rob Rubin, Eddy Slosower, John Lumia, Allison Conti, Cheryl Migatz (arrived 3:27 pm), Alberta Pedro, Marla Litsky (JJ)

Absent: Corey Valle (RCK)

Public: There were no members of the public present.

1. Chairman Rob Rubin called the meeting to order at 3:13 p.m.

2. Approve Minutes - The Committee reviewed the December 16 minutes.
Motion to approve the minutes of the December 16 meeting.
Motion by John Lumia, second by Allison Conti.
Yes: Rob Rubin, John Lumia, Eddy Slosower, Marla Litsky
Motion Carried.

3. Discuss Focus Areas
There is a charter for the Legislative Action Committee, which was approved by the Board of Education in July. The Committee needs to establish proposals or goals for the work this year, which must be Board approved.

Mr. Lumia clarified that next year, before the Board approves the charter for any ad hoc committee the goals/work of the Committee should be defined and included in the charter before approval by the Board of Education.

The Committee reviewed the charter and noted the purpose of when the Legislative Action Committee was established “for the purpose of reporting to the Board on state legislative and federal programs that have a direct bearing on fiscal or educational aspects of the Wappingers Central School District and its taxpayers.” The Board has the responsibility to make any and all contacts with outside agencies/authorities.

The Legislative Action Committee discussed the hemp letter and that parents voiced concerns at the Committee meeting.

The words “purpose” and “goal” could be the same and interchangeable terms. The Committee would like to reserve the flexibility to look at legislative items as they arise. Timing for action on certain legislative items could be a concern when the full Board meets twice a month.

The Committee discussed the process for bringing an item to the Board. There was a disagreement with whether the Committee should pick a topic and work on it before submitting a letter to the Board or whether the Committee should discuss and research a topic and provide the Board with a report so that the Board can further instruct the committee on next steps.

The Committee reviewed a document of legislative action items from the Lower Hudson Education Coalition Advocacy which was provided to Board member by the Superintendent of Schools. The Legislative Action Committee could align itself with the advocacy groups that the Superintendent and the Board belong to.

The Committee reviewed and discussed the items on the Proposed Legislative Action Committee Goals for 2019-2020 list. The Committee agreed to present the entire list for approval by the Board.

Motion to make the following amendments to the list of Proposed Legislative Action Committee Goals for 2019-2020:

1. Change the word “Follow” to “Tracking of” in item #1 under John Lumia;
2. Delete item #2 under John Lumia;
3. Delete items 1, 2, 3 under Eddy Slosower;
4. Add “Dyslexia” and the three links to the related legislative bills
5. Add “Due to the fluidity of legislative matters, the Legislative Action Committee may request additional approval by the Board to address urgent legislative matters which have an impact on the school district.”

Motion by Eddy Slosower, second by Cheryl Migatz.

Yes: Rob Rubin, John Lumia, Eddy Slosower, Allison, Conti, Cheryl Migatz, Marla Litsky

Motion Carried.

4. Schedule next meeting date - Alberta will send a doodle survey to the Committee members in order to schedule the next meeting after the outcome of the Feb. 10 Board of Education Meeting.
5. Adjournment
 - a. The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.