

MINUTES
SOUHEGAN COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
February 11, 2006 Brick School @ 3:15 pm

Present:

School Board: Janet Gaynor, Phyllis Thomas, Steve Coughlan, John Rizzi, John Walsh,
Jeanne Ludt Missing: Jan Phelps
Minutes recorded by: Janet Gaynor

Steve Coughlan called the meeting to order at 3:17 pm.

Steve Coughlan said the meeting has been called to clarify and solidify the vote on warrant articles.

Phyllis Thomas moved to support Article 2 as amended at the deliberative session. John Rizzi seconded.

No discussion. All present voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

John Walsh made a motion to support Article 3 as amended at the deliberative session, seconded by John Rizzi.

Discussion: chair recognized Phyllis Thomas who read a statement for the record:

I attended the Souhegan Deliberative session on Feb 7 and was persuaded there to change my vote on the proposed Wellness facility. I had been troubled by the cost to the taxpayers, especially in a year during which we had dramatic increases in gas and oil prices, a jump in special education costs and a driving need to bring our teachers' pay back in line with the rest of the state. These are all important parts of the education budget.

Then, at the deliberative session, I listened again to Janet Gaynor and Jeanne Ludt present the reasons for the wellness facility. Then I listened to Lisa Kent and Mike Beliveau, our own in-house fitness education experts, talk about wellness and about the difference between health fitness and sports fitness, about the teaching and educational approach to fitness. They enlightened me.

Then from the attendees at the meeting came George Bower and Jim Kimberley and Nancy Panasiti and, and, and...they all pointed out that the responsibility for the lack of fitness among our population, including our children rests with us, the parents who didn't and don't teach their kids how to eat well and to exercise. We contributed to the problem every time we bought a happy meal.

This is a barebones facility but it provides something important – needed space. Another consideration for this space is the need for room to provide physical therapy for those students with disabilities. Now they use the ticket office of the auditorium for their therapy because it provides them with some privacy.

So, for a one-time payment of \$87 per household, we can build space to allow our dedicated wellness teachers to teach our children what we have not.

So, with more than a little fanfare, I would like to recast my vote in favor of this project.

No further discussion. All present voted in favor 6-0. Motion passed.

Chair noted there was no further business.

John Walsh moved to adjourn, John Rizzi seconded.

All voted in favor. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:27 pm.