

FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES FOR JUNE 6 2009

Present: Diane Gaspar, Chair, Burke Bero, Vice-Chair, Jeanne LeBlanc, Stephanie Cronin, Chris Desimone. Also present Deb Spratt, library director, Mary Campano, library trustee, Jo Ann Pierce, youth services coordinator for the library, Eric Smith and Diane Karr.

Not present: George Zacharkis, Chris Johnson

The meeting, which took place in the meeting room at the Lawrence Library, was called to order at 10 a.m. Diane Gaspar addressed the meeting by stating that the purpose of the meeting is to organize for the override. She stated that Joe Sergi of the Board of Selectmen had already addressed the Lions Club. The group discussed the “rolling” BOS meeting scheduled for June 8. The meeting would start at the Senior Center at 6 p.m. then move to the Community Center at 6:30 and end at the library.

The discussion centered on how to reach voters. Jeanne LeBlanc stated that the Friends of the Library had lawn signs made up. The Friends were also going to do a mailing and had cards with a “yes” sticker attached to hand out. Suggestions were made to station one or two people at various locations around town to hand out flyers and generally be available to speak to potential voters.

The group discussed drafting a flyer to distribute. Chris Desimone presented a rough outline that highlighted certain points. Diane Karr volunteered to draft the flyer. Further discussion focused on the content of the flyer and whether it should be two sided. Diane Karr offered to draft the flyer and email it out for comments over the weekend.

In response to questions from Diane Gaspar and Deb Spratt, Eric Smith spoke about his opposition to the override. He stated that extended Town Administrator Bob Hanson’s contract for a few months would cost the tax payers in increases to Mr. Hanson’s pension. Eric also cited to past events that he attributed to the current budget shortfall. The group also discussed the whether the majority of seniors were against or for the override. Deb Spratt stated that the feedback she received indicated that the seniors were split.

The group discussed further the details of reaching out to voters. It was decided that volunteers would be stationed at the transfer station, the post office, the rail trail by the clock and at Donelan’s on Saturday June 20 and Saturday June 27. Chris Desimone volunteered to call Donelan’s for permission to stand outside the store. Diane Karr volunteered to contact the post office. Diane Gaspar stated she would put together a table of locations and volunteers and email it out.

Chris D moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m., Jeanne Leblanc seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Diane Gaspar