

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
SPECIAL TOWN BOARD MEETING  
MAY 19, 2009  
HELD JOINTLY WITH THE BAYFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AND  
THE MADELINE ISLAND FERRY LINE  
AT 5:00 PM AT THE BAYFIELD HIGH SCHOOL**

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss winter transportation issues.

Called to order at 5:08.

Members present: Ham Ross, Beth Fischlowitz, Ric Gillman, Larry Whalen, Greg Nelson.

Greg Nelson began by saying that in the interest of getting things out on the table, there should be no closed session. He expressed a continued desire on the part of the Town for an outside facilitator.

Bob Nelson welcomed everyone and said that the closed session from the previous night followed the School District's format for teachers' union negotiations.

Gary Russell called for listening more & talking less.

Greg Nelson requested more conversation rather than focusing on their submitted contract. He also pointed out that duplication of windsled services is not in anyone's best interest. The Town is willing to discuss all of the District's concerns.

Don Jeffords presented a list of District concerns.

Linda Kunelius said that the District could provide van transportation and that they will purchase a windsled and contract with Windsleds, Inc. to operate it. She pointed out that the Town will need to purchase a new windsled in the near future.

Gary Russell responded that the Town will purchase a sled with an 80/20 grant.

Brian Goodwin said that the District has to have oversight.

Arnie Nelson spoke: The combination of sleds that the Town has works. By using the (single) machine that the Board has selected, they will beat up their machine quickly.

Greg Nelson pointed out that it is a fallacy that it's the Town's responsibility to maintain the ice road. When Windsleds, Inc. carries the kids, they also check the ice.

Deb Knopf asked if the District would need to purchase more liability insurance to take kids on the ice in their Suburban.

Linda Kunelius said no.

Arnie Nelson said that there's a lot more to the job than just driving the sled. You have to be out on the ice watching it, and he is out there from dawn to dusk.

Gary Russell said that it will take some time to find the right windsled at the right price, and that everyone needs to slow down and work together.

Robin Trinko Russell stated that there are two sources of funding for the windsled: the Ferry Discretionary Fund, which is usually dedicated to higher traffic areas; and the Department of Transportation, which is a lengthy process.

Greg Nelson pointed out that the taxpayers of La Pointe would be paying twice for the District's sled when they already pay for 48% of the cost of travel for the kids. He further stated that the District's Suburban may be too heavy for the ice.

Bob Nelson said that the District needs to have a sled now. The BSD can no longer abdicate responsibility and needs to be totally in charge.

Ric Gillman asked where in the District's presented document is the collaboration. Item #3 nullifies collaborative agreement.

Deb Knopf said that all the District's issues can be resolved through a new contract.

Linda Kunelius said that there are many more issues for a collaborative agreement than just the winter transportation.

Mike Radtke suggested creating a contract with a view to the eventual purchase of equipment. Keep the District's purchase of a sled as a long-range option.

Linda Kunelius said that the Board wants to settle #2 & #3. Taxes is a subject for another day and that the District's expense will be less if they buy their own sled.

Ric Gillman suggested forming a committee out of all three entities for the purpose of drafting an agreement.

Linda Kunelius said that the District put forward a contract. What can the Town put on the table to help resolve the issue.

Ric Gillman requested time for good faith negotiation without the purchase of a windsled hanging over everyone's head.

Larry Whalen asked if the District has considered their share of maintaining the ice road.

Greg Nelson renewed the Town's request for a facilitator.

Rocky Tribovich favored a sub-committee rather than a facilitator.

Motion to appoint a sub-committee composed of the three entities and to set a meeting date for that committee. Motion by Ric Gillman; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Larry Whalen. Discussion: Ham Ross suggested the fewer members, the better. Five ayes. Motion carried.

The members will be Beth Fischlowitz, Ric Gillman, Gary Russell, Brian Goodwin & Don Jeffords. The first meeting will be May 27, 2009 at 6 PM at La Pointe.

Motion to adjourn. Motion by Ric Gillman; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ham Ross. Five ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by Patty Hobin

Approved as submitted 6/9/09

*Patty Hobin*