

Minutes

**Dresden Finance Committee
Hanover Municipal Board Room**

**Monday, May 13, 2013
Hanover, NH**

Members present: Daryl Press, John Ruth, Kristi Fenner (Acting Chair), Peter Christie, Nate Stearns, Mary Fowler, Heidi Postupack.

Community members present: No public

Members absent: James Dwinell, Cheryl Lindberg, Michael Gerling

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Agenda Items Discussed

1. Review/amendment of Agenda:
The Chair asked for comments on the agenda and there were none.
2. Public Comments on items not on the agenda:
There were no public comments
3. Minutes of March 11, 2013 DFC meeting:
Motion to approve by P. Christie, seconded by N Stearns. Motion passed.
4. Discussion of class size and curriculum offerings:
Justin Campbell's meeting with the DFC was postponed from March 11 to May 13, but he was not able to attend. This topic was postponed until he can attend. K. Fenner will reach out again to Mr. Campbell to arrange a meeting.
5. Nominations, elections of officers for 2013-14:
H. Postupack nominated K. Fenner as Chair of the DFC, seconded by N. Stearns. Motion passed.
M. Fowler suggested that we table nomination and election of vice chair until next meeting to allow for info gathering at Norwich Finance Committee meeting later this week.

Issues facing Norwich were discussed, including the role of the NFC going forward and the effects of new VT state education funding laws on Norwich taxpayers. N. Stearns added that a new bill would change the funding mechanism by reducing the education-spending threshold that triggers a penalty, and reducing the penalty fees. State mandates for minimum classroom size and school size will go up. Income sensitivity is also changing. After 10 years of school funding equalization, very little improvement has been seen. Committee discussed possible difficulties in reaching budget consensus between the two states as taxation disparities grow. Discussion included questions about VT imposing class size in Dresden – which does not seem possible – and recruiting additional DFC members from Norwich. The NFC vision statement was put on the list serve to attract interest.
6. Agenda items next meeting:
The next DFC is to be held in Hanover on June 17, 2013 at 6:00 p.m., and subsequent meetings in Norwich on July 8 and August 12.
7. Adjournment -
Motion to adjourn by D. Press, seconded by N. Stearns. Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Heidi Postupack
6/14/13