

Board of Education Special Agenda Meeting Minutes

April 13, 2018

Board Members Present: President Jamie Docuette, Linda Mrowka, Bill Bloethe, Tom Shillo and Robin Toldo.

Also Present: Superintendent Karen Goodwin, Principal Christian Arsenault, FIS Teachers/Residents: Michael George, Carol Giles, Chris Dollar and Meg Atkins, Business Manager James Eagan, Board Secretary Michele Klimczak, Student Board Representative Caroline Toldo, Trevor Atkinson from Northern Power Systems, via phone: Chris Finan from FIU Co., Greg Thibodeau from FI Waste Mgt. and 27 other members of the community.

1. School Community Session

1.1 Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance- BOE President Doucette called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance at 4:45 pm.

1.2 Exploration of Wind Energy to Help Meet School's Energy Demands

A. Purpose of Meeting- Superintendent Karen Goodwin

Superintendent Goodwin explained that the Board requested that she research the viability of wind as a source of power for our school. She stated that this was the very beginning of our exploration and that it was important to the Board to involve the Fishers Island Utility Company and community from the very beginning.

1. Educational- To teach our students about renewable energy and this could be a great learning tool for our students first hand through portals.
2. Environmental- To find out how can we protect our environment and look into utilizing an alternative renewable energy source as a viable option for the FIS.
3. Fiscal- To continue to be fiscally responsible by looking for ways to best serve our community and students for the least amount of tax dollars.

B. Feasibility of Wind Energy on Fishers Island-Trevor Atkinson, Technical Sales Manager/Sr. Application Engineer at Northern Power Systems- Mr. Atkinson presented a slide show to discuss the possibility of wind energy on Fishers Island including the design, cost, and systems involved in using a windmill to create energy.

C. Questions and Dialogue- Facilitated by President Doucette

Conversation, questions and answers ensued over 30 minutes from what the differences between vertical and horizontal windmills to data collection and the impact on wildlife/birds and safety.

D. Next Steps- Board of Education

The Board will schedule a meeting with Principal Arsenault, Bill Bloethe, Chris Finan, Greg Thibodeau, and Trevor Atkinson (via phone) to discuss barriers that currently exist and discuss possible solutions.

2. Adjournment- 6:35pm

Recorded by: Michele Klimczak