

SEPTEMBER 12, 2016
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Waterloo Region District School Board held a Committee of the Whole Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Education Centre Board Room, with the following members in attendance: K. Woodcock (Chairperson), C. Harrington, J. Hendry, T. Martin, S. McMillan, C. Millar, M. Ramsay, K. Smith and N. Waddell

Trustees A. Mitchell and C. Watson were unable to attend this evening's meeting.

Student Trustees R. Barnes and A. Takhar were in attendance.

The following senior administration members were in attendance: J. Bryant (Director of Education and Secretary), R. DeBoer, M. Gerard, S. Lomax, A. Mercier, S. Miller, P. Rubenschuh, E. Ranney, L. Read, M. Schinkel, G. Shantz and M. Weinert.

Other staff in attendance: J. Herring, N. Manning and L. Slupeiks.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson K. Woodcock called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

1. Moved by C. Harrington, seconded by C. Millar:

That the agenda of the September 12, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.

-Carried-

Note: During the approval of the agenda, Trustee J. Hendry, seconded by Trustee M. Ramsay, moved to refer the agenda item on Trustee Selection for Committee Participation to a Trustee Seminar. The motion was put to a vote and the motion was lost. Trustee K. Smith abstained from voting on the motion.

DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

There were no declarations of pecuniary interest this evening.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson K. Woodcock announced that she had received regrets for this evening's meeting from Trustee C. Watson.

Chief Communications Officer N. Manning provided an update on media coverage during the first week of school and acknowledged the efforts of team members L. Slupeiks and K. Penticost. Trustee K. Smith requested that Trustees be provided with the link to the story on the Welcome Centre featured on the evening news.

CELEBRATING BOARD ACTIVITIES

Principals B. Hatcher and M. Raymond provided trustees with a presentation on the 2016 Principals' Conference to be held September 29 to October 1, 2016, in Grand Bend.

DELEGATIONS

- Kae Elgie re Waterloo Collegiate Institute

POLICY AND GOVERNANCE

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 3004 – HOLDING OF PUBLIC MEETINGS

2. Moved by J. Hendry, seconded by N. Waddell:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 3004 – Holding of Public Meetings as presented at the September 12, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 4002 – COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOLS

3. Moved by J. Hendry, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4002 – Community Use of Schools as presented at the September 12, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 4007 – APPROVAL OF RESEARCH PROJECTS

4. Moved by N. Waddell, seconded by S. McMillan:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 4007 – Approval of Research Projects as presented at the September 12, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

APPROVAL OF BOARD POLICY 6007 – SCHOOL NUTRITION

5. Moved by K. Smith, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board approve Board Policy 6007 – School Nutrition as presented at the September 12, 2016, Committee of the Whole Meeting.

-Carried-

REPORTS

**WATERLOO COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE/NORTHDALÉ FEASIBILITY STUDY
FINAL REPORT**

R. Martz from Live, Work, Learn and Play provided trustees with an overview of the feasibility study which identified opportunities to pursue the redevelopment of the WCI/WLU Northdale Lands and potentially establish a ‘Community Hub.’

He further outlined that a number of key stakeholder meetings have been held with various groups and a number of potential uses for the properties were identified.

Trustee J. Hendry inquired where the students would come from to support the new facility as most housing in the area is occupied with university students. Superintendent M. Gerard responded that the current boundary is larger than just this neighbourhood and studies have shown there is a continued need for a secondary school in this area of Waterloo.

Trustee K. Smith stated that she is excited about the concept, but questioned how many private sector partners have expressed an interest and also if there was any idea of the amount of money that the City and WLU have committed to this project. R. Martz responded that a firm commitment has not been discussed at this time as they are still in the feasibility study stage of the project.

Trustees agreed that it was too early to commit to this project as they were concerned about the estimated cost of this project and how much funding the Board would be able to contribute.

Trustees requested that trustees (representing three geographic areas), Parent Council representatives and members of the community be consulted.

6. Moved by J. Hendry, seconded by C. Millar:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board staff be directed to report back to the Board of Trustees by January 2017 with recommendations for how the Board of Trustees should proceed regarding the Feasibility Study after further consultation with the City of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, and other potential stakeholders. (Folio 14)

Moved in amendment by J. Hendry, seconded by S. McMillan:

That the Waterloo Region District School Board staff be directed to report back to the Board of Trustees by January 2017 with recommendations for further discussions on how the Board of Trustees should proceed regarding the Feasibility Study after further consultation with the City of Waterloo, Wilfrid Laurier University, and other potential stakeholders.

-Carried Unanimously-

GENERATIVE DISCUSSION: TRUSTEE SELECTION PROCESS FOR COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Trustee C. Millar stated that her reason for raising this item was based on confusion in regard to how trustees are appointed for community events and panels for discussion. She further stated that she is not seeking hard and fast rules, but rather guidelines and an understanding of how these events are allocated to trustees.

Trustees engaged in a lengthy discussion and comments included:

- When a community request for a trustee received a trustees from that area should be selected to participate;
- The current process was outlined for trustees by the Chairperson and if the Chairperson is unable to attend, then the Vice-Chair and then the Past Chair are contacted;
- Several trustees suggested that perhaps if the Vice-Chairperson is unable to attend then the event could be opened up to trustees;
- The Chairperson noted that in the case of a request for a trustee to sit on a committee, the Chairperson requests interest from trustees and then selects a candidate from those trustees who have expressed interest;
- It was noted that when multiple requests are received for the same committee or event, it is difficult to decide which trustees is selected;
- The selection process should be more open and transparent and the skill set of each trustee should be taken into account when assigning committees;
- It was noted that in some boards trustees submit a resume outlining their skills and experience which is considered when assigning committees.

STAFF AND BOARD REPORTS

There were no reports this evening.

QUESTION PERIOD

Trustee K. Smith requested an update on the Relationship/Team-Building Seminar as recommended by Board motion. Chairperson K. Woodcock indicated the seminar is in the planning stage at this time and a facilitator has not yet been selected. Trustees will be engaging in some additional pre-planning at a Trustee Seminar at the Education Centre on October 3, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no items identified

ADJOURNMENT

7. Moved by T. Martin, seconded by C. Harrington:

That the Committee of the Whole Meeting of September 12, 2016, be adjourned.

-Carried-

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.