

Russell School Committee,(RSC)

Meeting minutes Aug 29, 2022; held at the Hadley Town library

Present: Courtney Meyer (Chair), Dan Regish, Alan Weinberg, Carolyn Holstein (Clerk), Emma Dragon (on Zoom)

Also present - Alison Donta-Venman, survey specialist

Alison, who developed the survey for the Town library prior to construction, said that first the RSC needs to ask ourselves why a survey is needed. The response was for publicity and to help determine whether the townspeople wanted to restore the Russell school or not.

The RSC decided that the survey should be distributed both electronically and by paper. Paper copies could be made available at the Senior Center, the library, Town Hall, even Town Meeting. Electronically the survey could be put on the Town website and on Facebook.

The first thing needed by the RSC is an email address. Courtney said that she would give options of an email address to us. Then we need to sign up for Survey Monkey, a software program that would help design the survey. We as a committee will pay the \$99 that will give us 1 month of use and be able to receive up to 1,000 responses.

Alison said that the current draft survey can be reduced to one page. The draft first page could be significantly consolidated. The second page could be included in its entirety. The third page (the questions) would be transferred to a matrix. Alison demonstrated how this would be done & showed on the screen at the meeting.

Alison asked if we wanted extra questions at the end of the survey, such as age groups, whether the survey respondent had attended Russell school. It was finally decided to include these questions. She also suggested another question: do you want to help with the survey or join the RSC? This was added to the survey.

The question of whether to have a forum about the school was raised. There was general agreement to have one, and Alan said that he'd like to help with that. It could occur just before the survey is distributed in order to educate the residents a bit about the options for the building.

The Select Board has to approve the survey, so it must be ready before their meeting on Sept 20. We'll also ask the Board for a Web page as well.

After Alison left, Courtney asked for approval to the minutes from August 1 and 18. The August 1 minutes had been approved earlier, but the Aug 18 minutes had two suggested changes, then was approved as amended.

Emma suggested that corrections to the minutes be suggested Before the next meeting, in order not to waste time during the meeting.

The next RSC will be held Monday Sept 12, 6:30 pm at the Library meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm

Respectfully submitted, Carolyn Holstein, clerk for the evening