

**SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
MINUTES MAY 6, 2019
APPROVED**

SB Members Present: Alison S. Manugian, Vice Chair; John R. Giger, Clerk; Rebecca H. Pine, Member

Members Absent: Barry Pease, Joshua A. Degen

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant; Vanessa Abraham, Library Director; Trustees of the Groton Public Library

Ms. Manugian called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

1. Mr. Haddad said that the vote required on the NVTHS roof was a majority and not a 2/3rds vote. He said that Town Counsel had corrected its recommendation on that article.
2. *Ms. Pine moved to ratify the Town Manager's appointment of Nicole Smith as a Camp Counselor at the Country Club. Mr. Giger seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*
3. Mr. Haddad said that he had emailed 10 residents the ballot information booklet and received good feedback on it. He said that he also added working that this had been done as per the Board's policy as suggested at their previous meeting. He said that there was some controversy over the "no" argument as drafted by Ms. Manugian. He said that Ms. Pine had some concerns adding he had his own concerns about changing someone's argument. Ms. Pine said that the implication that alternative materials could be used and that slate was a want was misleading. Ms. Abraham said that she had provided some potential alternative wording as well as some additional information that might be helpful. Mr. Zeiler said that the time and energy that it would take to replace the roof in 30-40 years warranted spending an additional \$100K now to use slate which would last 100 years. Ms. Manugian said that the choice should go to the voters and should not be decided already. Ms. Pine proposed some alternative language adding that they had been vetting out the material choice for months. Mr. Giger said he was not sure how they got to a need vs. a want adding that a cost analysis had been done where it became apparent to they use slate now while the scaffolding was up. Mr. Zeiler said that the bids came in right where they estimated they should. Ms. Manugian said that she was not happy that they were looking at slate right now as a process standpoint budget wise. She said she was fine with simplifying the language adding this was not a battle high up on her list. She said that she was frustrated with the capital plan needs adding that they were voting yes or no on something when all the needs were not out there.

Ms. Pine moved to approve the ballot booklet with the following wording for the argument against on question #2:

A "no" vote will help constrain the escalating cost of government in Groton. A "no" vote will prevent this project from going forward at this time. The needs of our community in coming years should be considered in sum before funds are borrowed and debt incurred for this project.

Ms. Manugian seconded the motion. Ms. Pine and Ms. Manugian were in favor, Mr. Giger was against adding he wanted to see the last sentence taken out.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned to Town Meeting at 6:54pm by a motion made by Mr. Giger, seconded by Ms. Manugian.

Approved: _____
John Giger, Clerk

_____ respectfully submitted:
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 6/3/19