

DRAFT
Advisory Committee
April 1, 2014
Faculty Dining Room, Wellesley High School

Marjorie Freiman called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 6:40 p.m. Those present included Robert Capozzi, Mary Crown, Thomas Engels, Becky Epstein, Ann Marie Gross, John Hartnett, Lucy Kapples, Andy Patten, Ann Rappaport, Deb Robi, Mason Smith and Scott Tarbox.

Citizen Speak

In attendance were Members from the Board of Selectmen; Hans Larsen, Executive Director; Members of the School Committee; Dr. David Lussier, Superintendent; Judy Belliveau, School Director of Finance & Business Operations; Peg Metzger, Town Moderator; and Town Meeting Members Pamela Posey, Susan Clapham, Susan Ryan, Diane Campbell and Rich Woerner.

Rich Woerner addressed the committee. He presented his motion to amend Article 8, Motion 2, to reduce line 320 of the Wellesley Public School personal service budget request by \$537,240 and to reduce the proposed override amount by the same amount.

Susan Ryan spoke against this amendment expressing concerns that highly-qualified teachers may leave the school system. She shared the view that we have used a band-aid approach to problems and some cuts have been unreasonable. Our contribution to pension liability funding is a misplaced priority and we should consider our children's needs first.

Susan Clapham expressed concerns about the timing of this motion after a year was spent building the budget.

Preparation for Annual Town Meeting, Discussion and Votes on Warrant Articles

Advisory members raised questions about the school contract settlement and whether the rate of increase in general school spending is slowing to any degree. Procedural questions were raised and answered by the Moderator. Other possible amendments which may be presented from the floor as well as Advisory's comments were discussed.

Calendar Review

Advisory will meet prior to the Annual Town Meeting on Monday, April 7th at 6:30 p.m. in the Faculty Dining Room of the Wellesley High School.

New Business/Old Business

There was none.

Ms. Freiman adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m. with no objections.