

Farragut/ Knox County Schools Joint Education Relations Committee

Minutes from January 6, 2015

I. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Littleton at 4:06 pm. A quorum was declared. Members present were Kristen Pennycuff-Trent, Carla Werner, Mike Singletary, Lee Wickman and Jennifer Hatmaker of the Town administration. Guest Alan Sloane was also present.

II. Minutes from December 2 were presented and Ms. Pennycuff-Trent moved that they be accepted. Ms. Werner seconded the motion and it was approved by acclamation. No discussion ensued.

III. Chairman Littleton asked for any additions to the agenda but there were none.

IV. Discussion

- a. Mr. Singletary shared with the committee about his experience as FIS Principal for a Day. He stated that the principal, Reggie Mosely was a very engaging, optimistic individual. They began the day by greeting the children on their way into school. Mr. Singletary was generally impressed: the school was clean, orderly and the teachers and students were engaged with their learning experience.
- b. The Youth Engagement Program workshop began with a review of our committee charter and purpose. Ms. Werner posed a question about the level of community interest in this project. Ms. Pennycuff-Trent suggested we use a survey to determine the level of interest. Ms. Werner postulated that we could not only survey the community but also the student population as well. Chair Littleton asked the question, "What if on every committee we had a student representative for a one year term?" Ms. Werner mentioned that Oak Ridge has already engaged some of the students at Hardin Valley Academy. Chair Littleton put forth the question, what if all charters are amended that the committees should reach out to students for representation. He noted that we could work within that framework. Chair Littleton had recently read a newspaper article about a young man on the Knox County School board. Many of the points in the article were relevant to our dilemma. He also speculated that few towns have strong committee run structures like the Town of Farragut. Mr. Singletary pointed out that we should not make it harder, we have more structure in place than we realize. Ms. Pennycuff-Trent mentioned that each committee could appoint a mentor to guide the student representative.

- c. A motion was made by Chair Littleton that our committee recommend to the Mayor and Board of Alderman that they select some or all the Town of Farragut Standing Committees to have student representation in the next committee year.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Pennycuff -Trent. Discussion ensued and the general consensus was that our committee not act immediately and that at the next meeting we will discuss how to proceed. Chair Littleton called for the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. There were no Action Items identified.

V. Motion to adjourn by Ms. Wickman and seconded by Chair Littleton. Meeting ended at 5:07. Our next meeting will be held on February 3, 2015.