

## ***Wantagh BAC Minutes***

***3/1/2010***

- The Wantagh BAC meeting was held on March 1, 2010 at the High School South Cafeteria at 8:00 PM.
- The minutes from the meeting of 2/24/2010 were not yet posted so there was no motion for their approval.
- There were no sub-committee reports given at this time. Mitch Zerner of the Contracts Sub-committee did mention that his committee was meeting on 3/3/10 and would be voting on the 26 recommendations they have so far and that hopefully the results will be presented to the BAC on 3/9/10.
- There was a presentation by Marty Abrams, the Director of Facilities for the District. Mr. Abrams gave a brief synopsis of his department stressing how all of the building and grounds people are very proud of the job that they do and how the primary goal of all that they do is the health and safety of everyone while they are on district grounds. Some of the items he mentioned are as follows.
- He mentioned that it is now mandated by the State for all of the school districts to become “green” in the use of all of their cleaning products. He displayed a new spray device that his people have started to use that uses plain water and ionizes it to turn it into a very effective cleaner.
- He mentioned how the district has been trying very hard to do all repair and minor construction projects “in house” by district employees whenever feasible. He told us how the district currently has an electrician, a plumber, a carpenter, and a mechanic on staff.
- He mentioned how the District does partake in cooperative bidding with 34 other school districts within Nassau County.

- Members of the BAC were wondering if we could cost share the services of electrician, carpenters, plumbers, and mechanics with other local districts; Mr. Abrams said that although this has been discussed the logistics and timeframes of getting the different projects, emergency repairs, and scheduled maintenance done (of the different districts) in a timely way makes this an impractical solution. There is also the question of involving different unions and contracts between different school districts, and whose needs would supersede whose?
- Local districts have been discussing the possibility of cost sharing equipment, such as trucks, tractors and mowers.
- He was asked by the BAC if there were any major future facilities projects that we should know about, and he replied that the major issues would be the parking lots in order to maintain their safety.
- He told how heating oil consumption has remained consistent since 1979. He mentioned how the High School, Middle School and Wantagh Elem are now all serviced with natural gas and that the savings from these conversions will be seen over time as long as natural gas remains cheaper than oil.
- There was the mention of a roofing problem at the Middle School and Mr. Abrams told us that it was a matter being looked into, as they were just told that the problem is not covered by the roofing warranty, but the matter will be corrected as soon as possible.
- There was mention of a lack of lighting problem by the Middle School Gym exits that go into the parking lots during night time activities, Mr. Abrams mentioned that he was not aware of the problem but he would have his people address it as soon as possible.
- Another BAC member wanted to know if we were saving money with the new fields and if that money would be used in the restoration of some of the other fields, Mr. Abrams informed us that the time saved from

maintenance used on the fields prior to their renovation has allowed him to disperse his people in other areas to get more things accomplished.

- He also informed us that his fiscal responsibilities lie with all line items that begin with the 1620 and 1621 codes.
- Dana DiCapua then gave a brief statement regarding transportation stating that we are currently in the last year of a five year contract with the transportation company and that negotiations are now taking place to try to get them to roll over the contract with no increases.
- Dana DiCapua then gave a brief presentation regarding the current status of State Aid. She explained how 22% of the revenue budget of the district is from State Aid and that for the budget year 2010-2011 we would be in pretty good shape losing only about \$100,000.00 of our current aid package, because of offsetting things such as “high tax aid”, “Boces aid”, and “special education aid”.
- She explained that the biggest assistance to our district was from “building aid” which at this time is \$2,303,641. This includes a **onetime retro-payment of “building aid” from the 08-09 budget of \$749,000** and an 09-10 building aid of \$833,000. These two additional aid items gave us an increase of \$1,469,826.
- She mentioned that transportation aid is at \$650,000.
- However she warned that in the 2011-2012 budget we would not be so fortunate and that we will need to address the loss of the onetime revenue aid issues. She was hoping to get the numbers posted on the Wantagh website ASAP.
- The meeting adjourned at 10:00 PM.