

**Operations Committee Meeting
October 3, 2013
Minutes**

Present: Ted Wagner, Barb Slusin, Dr. Gary Oberg, Dave Secrest, Dr. Johnnie Thomas, Mark Kovack, Jeff Carr, Erica Brusio

1. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the August 20, 2013 meeting were approved.

2. Citizens Who Wish to Address the Committee – None.

3. Snow Plow Contract Renewal: Jeff Carr stated that District 155 attorney, Bob Kohn, advised that renegotiation & renewal is acceptable per the 2012/2013 snow removal contract. The Administration would like to exercise the option to renegotiate and renew with Geske and Sons, the snow removal contractor for 2012/2013. A minimal 2% increase was proposed and, considering the price of fuel and manpower, this seems reasonable. Ted Wagner stated that as long as performance is satisfactory, the committee would recommend approval of this contract for the 2013/2014 school year but it was requested that the District seek formal bids for snow removal services for the 2014/2015 school year.

4. Facility Rental Rates/Softball Field Rental: Softball fields were rented under the same structure as baseball fields. It was brought to our attention that softball games take about ½ the time to play as baseball games and therefore some adjustment should be made regarding the fees for softball. Other school districts (Huntley and Dundee specifically) as well as local park districts also charge by the hour for softball fields.

There was discussion and the question of “who will be regulating the amount of time used?” was raised. It was agreed that this subject would be reviewed and revisited before the next meeting.

5. South HS SEDOM Classroom Purchase: Mark Kovack presented the following: In 1978 when a portion of South HS was built, 4 classrooms were purchased by SEDOM for their use with the understanding (per the original contract Page 5, Section 9) that the district would have the choice to purchase this space back at a later date.

The original impetus was to give the cooperative a program base housed within a mainstream high school setting to place students in. Overtime, high schools such as District 155 have developed programs that mirror the SEDOM program and the district is currently providing these same services for students and therefore would like to purchase back these classrooms. This would allow the district to provide better services as well as more control over the building. At a later date the subject of the students that are outside of the district will be addressed. They will not be abandoned, but tuition, and other details, would need to be worked out. Mark Kovack advised that it is advantageous to District 155 to have these classrooms under district control and still service those students. Student participation has expanded with district programs while the overall enrollment is dropping considerably.

When those classrooms were originally purchased, SEDOM paid approximately \$93K. Currently, district owned classrooms are smaller than those owned by SEDOM and do not have acceptable restroom facilities. Discussion with SEDOM will take place if they request space in the future at South HS.

Currently, 8 students from around the county also occupy those 4 classrooms and it will not be the intent of the district to displace those students. Arrangements could be made with their districts to pay District 155 for services instead of SEDOM. Mark Kovack pointed out that this information would be more suited at a Policy Meeting.

SEDOM is in a difficult transition now where they have been directed to restructure within 5 years. There was discussion by the Committee about SEDOM and the district in future years.

Argianas and Associates of Naperville appraised the fair market value of the classrooms at approximately \$90K. Therefore, District 155 would be required to pay SEDOM a fair value to regain control of these classrooms.

The Committee agreed that buying back the SEDOM classrooms is in the best interest of the district. Legal council will review the resolution and bill of sale documents. The documents will be part of the packet for the next board meeting.