

**HYDE PARK SELECTBOARD
MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2012**

EMERGENCY MEETING

All minutes are draft until approved by the Selectboard; please check future minutes for approval of these minutes. Meetings may be video taped and such recordings are held by Green Mountain Access Television – Recording Info: PO Box 581, Hyde Park, VT 05655; info@greenmountainaccess.tv or 802-851-1592

Members Present: James Heath (JH), Chairman; Brian Jones (BJ); Roger Audet (RA)
Members Absent: David Gagnier (DG), Vice-Chair; Mike Dubie (MD)
Others Present: Ron Rodjenski, Town Administrator; Kim Moulton, Town Clerk; Diane Reilly, HPES Principal; Jeff Beattie, Mentoring Program Petitioner

JH called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

1. Petition to support Hyde Park Elementary Mentoring Program

JH explained that since the Selectboard referred the petition seeking \$5,000 for a mentoring program based at the elementary school to the school board on January 27th, the school board refused to add it to their warning and instead referred it back to the Selectboard as they understood that it was not a school program. JH noted that the Selectboard was not for or against the petition but they objected to the wording since it requested a vote on funding support for a school program under the town warning, which is not allowed by state law. JH explained that the board could make minor changes to a petitioned article but he felt that the presented article needed major changes in order to clarify that the funding would be for a regional service agency and he was not willing to make those changes. Petition organizer Jeff Beattie explained that the mentoring program was always going to be supported by the Lamoille Valley Mentoring Partnership (LVMP) and funds would not go to the school, even though the wording of the petitioned article did state that the \$5,000 was for a school mentoring program at Hyde Park Elementary School. Town Clerk Kim Moulton explained that Jeff called the town in December about the wording but there was no clear agency identified, at that time, that would be receiving the town support. Jeff felt that it was a legitimate petition and he asked if the Board could amend the article to include LVMP. JH explained that the article is in conflict with itself as it requests a town vote on a school program to which BJ agreed. JH offered that the petitioners probably thought they were supporting a school program based on the wording. Motion by RA to reject the petition as the wording conflicts with itself. Seconded by BJ. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. JH suggested that the Selectboard could propose an article on its own to follow the intent of the request as explained by Jeff. Principal Reilly explained that the school is a safe a secure facility for the one-on-one mentorship meetings with maybe one or two events held by the group at an off-site location, and using school locations is common for mentorship programs. JB offered that the funding does not go to the school however mentorship volunteers do coordinate time with the school staff and with the students academic needs. Principal Reilly stated that the school location also encourages community members to utilize the school facility for non-educational community building activities, such as mentoring. Jeff offered that the location is convenient for parents and students although the program is not required to be based at the school. Motion by RA to add an article to the warning that reads "Shall the voters of the Town of Hyde Park approve an amount of \$5,000 for the Lamoille Valley Mentorship Partnership to provide mentoring services in the Hyde Park community?". Seconded by BJ. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed. Kim will include the article in a new warning for the Selectboard to sign.

2. Adjourn

Motion by BJ to adjourn at 8:34 a.m. Seconded by RA. Voting: 3 in favor, 0 against, motion passed.