



**Halifax Regional School Board
Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee
Minutes
July 6, 2016
4:00 p.m.**

Meeting was held this date in the Board Lounge,
33 Spectacle Lake, Dartmouth, NS.

PRESENT: Bridget Boutilier
Nancy Jakeman
Gin Yee
Christy Linders
Denise Bell, Regional Education Officer

REGRETS: Elwin LeRoux, Superintendent
Natascha Joncas, Acting Corporate Secretary

STAFF: Lance Bullock, Senior Staff Advisor
Athena Leclair, Administrative Assistant to the Corporate Secretary

1. Call to Order

The Chair, Gin Yee, called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

Committee Chair Gin Yee noted he wanted to add a discussion topic regarding attendance and might bring forward a motion to seek legal opinion regarding the Committee of the Whole and the attendance of that meeting.

It was moved and seconded (Yee/Boutilier) to approve the amended agenda.

(CARRIED)

3. Approval of Minutes

It was moved and seconded (Yee/Boutilier) that the minutes/business arising from the minutes of the May 4, 2016 Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee meeting be approved.

(CARRIED)

4. Discussion Items

5. Decision Items

- *Section 7.4 and 7.5*

The committee recommends to the full board to keep Section 7.4 and 7.5.

- *Section 9.2 deletion of (b)*

It was noted that the purpose of the Committee of the Whole meeting was to cut down on the length of a Regular Board meeting. It was noted that generally a Committee of the Whole meeting is a prelude to what is coming up at a Regular Board meeting. It was stated that there is enough work to include a Committee of the Whole meeting as well as a PDRC meeting. A discussion ensued regarding the lack of Leadership Sessions there would be if both PDRC and Committee of the Whole meetings were in place. It was noted that having two Leadership Sessions per month has been beneficial. It was stated that a Committee of the Whole does not have any legislative powers. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not the PDRC meetings will continue or if they will be dissolved and policy work would be done through the Committee of the Whole meetings. It was noted that how a Committee of the Whole meeting is organized is important. A discussion ensued regarding what it would entail to make all meetings public, including Leadership Sessions. It was suggested that a Leadership Session might take place in order to discuss bylaws with the whole board.

The decision of the committee is to keep the PDRC so those Terms of Reference stay. Committee of the Whole Terms of Reference will need to be adjusted to remove the portion regarding policy.

- *Section 9.2 (b) becomes (c)*

Section 9.2 (b) will remain as will 9.2 (c).

- *Section 9.3 (a)*

The committee recommends to the full board that the Terms of Reference for an Ad Hoc Committee be established at the first Ad Hoc Committee meeting and brought back to the board for ratification. Remove *and terms of reference* in 9.3 (a). Add a clause (9.3b) that states that the first action of the committee is to create a terms of reference to bring back to the board for ratification.

- *Attendance*

The Education Act states *board meeting*. The question is whether or not the Education Act's definition of a board meeting includes a committee meeting. It was proposed that one way to get into Committee of the Whole is by motion so it could be done from a Regular

Board meeting. Essentially there would be two regular board meetings a month. A discussion ensued regarding whether or not it is legal under the Education Act.

It was moved (Yee/Jakeman) to get a legal opinion to see how the Governing Board can get Committee of the Whole to count towards attendance and to analyze Committee Chair Gin Yee's proposal of having two regular board meetings a month to achieve that attendance.

(CARRIED)

- Revolving Committee of the Whole Chair

Normally the Committee of the Whole is chaired by the Vice Chair. It was noted that continuity is important and a rotating chair makes that difficult. Further discussion will occur at a future Leadership Session.

6. Next Meeting

7. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded (Yee/Boutilier) that the meeting be adjourned.

(CARRIED)

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVED