

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Minutes of Newton Falls Exempted Village Regular Meeting

Held February 25, 2016 at 6 p.m. – Jr./Sr. High School Board Room

President Debra Davis called the regular meeting of the Newton Falls Board of Education to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Mr. Ballas, Mrs. Davis, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell

Tiger Paws & Recognition

Art

Sabrina Ellsworth	YSU Regional Scholastic Art Gold Key Award in Ceramics
Matthew Jones	YSU Regional Scholastic Art Gold Key Award in Ceramics, "American Visions Nominee", "Best of Show"
Lauren Boyce	YSU Regional Scholastic Art Silver Key Award in Graphic Design
Karry Durst	YSU Regional Scholastic Art Silver Key Award in Ceramics
Jasmine Fincham	District 63, Mixed Media painting on display at State House

Band

Newton Falls Flute Trio	Elizabeth Tatman, Dakotah Slusher, Lindsey Gumina, II, Class C
Euphonium Solo	Caitlyn Wood, II, Class C
Trumpet Solo	Zachary Digman, II, Class B

Choir

Maxwell Digman	District V, Class B, Rating of I, Vocal Solo
Lindsey Holub	District V, Class A, Rating of II, Vocal Solo
Mikayla Eaken	District V, Class B, Rating of II, Vocal Solo
Floria Gerardino	District V, Class B, Rating of III, Vocal Solo

Hearing of Individuals

Julie Lemon, 182 Woodland Street, Newton Falls, OH 44444

Mrs. Lemon came to discuss the ongoing bus situation. When she moved to her home, she was told that the bus would be there between 8:03 a.m. and 8:06 a.m. It has been running very late, and she can't afford a baby sitter in the morning. One day the bus forgot her. She was told that her bus driver was sick. She hopes that he gets better soon, but wondered if there is any way that the school can be open earlier. She has to be at work, and her job will be in jeopardy if she arrives late.

She also wondered if the buses are overcrowded since they have been doubling up. She stated that we just passed a levy, but this is a problem that happened four days already. She wondered if the elementary could be opened earlier for parents who have to get to work. She wondered if the board has a resolution to the problem, or do they know when the problem will end.

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Mrs. Davis asked Mr. Woodard to update the board regarding the bus situation. Mr. Woodard said that we do have a serious shortage of drivers. We have drivers off work on medical leave, and we have no substitutes to drive for them. We are doubling and tripling up to get the routes done. The buses are not overcrowded because they take a load and then go back for another one. That's why they are running late. There is a real shortage of drivers in the entire area. We are putting more advertisements out there to try to get more drivers. Contractually, we can't open buildings early because we cannot have the staff there earlier than stated in the negotiated agreement. Mr. Woodard asked if Mrs. Lemon has a friend that could help her out in the mornings until things are straightened out. Mrs. Lemon said that all her friends work. There is nobody available that can help her.

Mrs. Koontz said that Mr. Woodard isn't exaggerating. She is taking bus driver training courses for another district, and people just aren't interested in driving a school bus. Mrs. Koontz asked Mr. Woodard if Mrs. Lemon could drop off their kids at the junior high at an earlier time. Mr. Woodard said that we would be opening up a big liability if we did that. Mrs. Koontz said that it's a difficult situation, but we just don't have the manpower right now.

Mr. Kline said that he knows a woman that runs a day care center in her home that is two houses away from the covered bridge. He knows that she would help Mrs. Lemon for a very reasonable price. He was sure that she would let Mrs. Lemon's child get on the bus there.

Mrs. Davis suggested that we provide Mrs. Lemon with her contact information. Ben Koontz happened to have the phone number available.

Committees and/or Delegations – Related to the Agenda, Education, and Committee Report

Student Achievement – Mrs. Debra Davis and Mr. Kenneth Kline

Elementary

Testing seems to go on all year long. March 14-18 is Right to Read Week. The Father/Daughter Dance is March 11. There will be a dance for the boys as well. The second nine weeks ended and report cards were distributed.

Middle School

Mr. Sembach's fifth grade reading class has four students who have reached their "twenty book" goal so far. These students will receive a certificate and a tiger pin. Congratulations to Jacob Sipka, Lily Derry, Nicholas Henle, and Madison Baillie.

The spelling bee was held on February 10. Zoe McElrath will represent the middle school at the Trumbull County Spelling Bee.

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Students of the Month

Grade 4: Jadyn Byrd and Anthony Blevins
Grade 5: Maddie Pack and Larry Nichols, III
Grade 6: Reagan Swiger and Brady DeLisle

High School

The guidance department held another FAFSA night for parents. Approximately fifty people attended. The guidance department is now preparing to host our 2nd annual College Career Plus night.

March 1 will be the NHS induction ceremony at 9:00 a.m. in the high school auditorium. Delegates for Buckeye Boys' and Girls' State will be announced at the ceremony.

Mrs. Davis distributed copies of a newsletter she receives as student achievement liaison, and invited the other board members to contribute ideas for student achievement each month.

Legislative Liaison – **Mrs. Debra Davis** and Mr. Brent Powell

The legislature is considering HB 445 which would make changes to college credit plus to ensure that students participating in that program would be able to participate in extra-curricular activities. Hearings are being held on HB 410 which addresses creative ways to address truancy, HB 401 which involves chartered, nonpublic schools, and HB 425 which deals with allowing religious expression in schools.

Finance Committee - Mr. Brent Powell and **Mr. Kenneth Kline**

Mr. Kline and Mrs. Meeks met to review the district's financials. There was not a formal meeting.

Athletic Council – Mr. Brent Powell and Mrs. Brenda Koontz

Mrs. Koontz

The athletic council hasn't met. The boys play Pymatuning Valley on Friday. Last night the girls shut out LaBrae. The girls will be playing in the district championship against Brookfield on Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in Ravenna. The winter sports banquet is March 14 at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Woodard

The athletic council is meeting next Thursday, March 3 at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Powell

The booster's night at the races went well. It was a nice evening. Approximately 190 people attended.

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Trumbull County Career & Technical Center – Mrs. Debra Davis

Congratulations to Dana Lane. Dana is a student in the public safety program at TCTC. She recently passed her fire fighter exam.

We currently have fifty nine students attending TCTC at a cost of \$4,260 per student.

Minutes

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#20-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the minutes from the January 13, 2016, organizational meeting and the January 21, 2016, regular meeting as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer's Report and Recommendations

Report

The Treasurer reviewed the District's enrollment figures.

FY 2016 Funded ADM

Elementary	336	0
Middle School	247	-2
Junior High	194	-3
High School	416	-3

2/2/2016	1193	-8
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Kids in Seats

Elementary	317	3
Middle School	246	-2
Junior High	192	-4
High School	305	-4

2/2/2016	1060	-7
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Open Enrollment

Students In	Students Out	Dollars In	Dollars Out	Net Effect
51	98	\$303,141	\$570,123	(\$266,982)

Community School Losses

Students Out	Dollars Out
54	\$479,963

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Cash Balances

001 = (\$379,375)
016 = \$ 17,770
 (\$361,605)

We haven't started receiving tax advances yet. Hopefully, the balances will be recovered before the March board meeting.

Funding

Our second foundation payment in February was the first time that ODE began using this year's attendance data. Overall, our annual funding decreased by \$46,167, and our expenses deducted from the foundation decreased by \$2,093 for a net decrease of \$44,074. This funding amount will most likely continue to decline for the remainder of the year. However, we are hoping that career tech funding will be increasing once ODE begins using current data for that category in March. I will keep you posted

Lawsuit

Some of you may have seen the article in the Tribune about our lawsuit against Steel City Asphalt. The suit was filed on February 8. I have distributed copies of our complaint for your reference.

Bus Repairs

We have spent approximately \$8,500 so far this school year on outsourced bus repairs. The buses are in a state of disrepair, and we are likely to spend more before it gets better.

We plan to put wireless in the bus garage. The wireless router costs approximately \$100. I was able to purchase both a laptop and the wireless router for \$20 with American Express reward points.

We are going to have to put some money into organizing the bus garage and developing an inventory of basic parts.

Medicaid

I attended a Medicaid webinar on Friday. Beginning August 1st, we will have to have a prescription from a physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice nurse in order to receive Medicaid reimbursement for the following services to students on IEPs: physical therapy, audiology, speech pathology, and/or occupational therapy. I was relieved because I originally thought this went into effect last August, but it still will be a timing issue to get all the necessary prescriptions before August. I will keep you updated as information becomes available.

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Boosters

I attended a seminar regarding student activities and booster groups. As a result of that meeting, I am going to request quarterly financial reports, bank reconciliations, and a list of officers for each ancillary group. We are also supposed to be reviewing fundraising plans and/or changes before the school year in which they take place.

We also need to be careful that the booster groups identify themselves when they are fundraising. I've noticed that fundraising materials have not been identifying the group doing the selling. All materials must clearly identify the entity.

I'm distributing a copy of our board policy on relations with booster organizations as it already specifies these items.

Five Year Plan

I have an alternative scenario for the five year plan to present in executive session.

Recommendations

Financial Report

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#21-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the financial reports for the month of January 2016, and the short term investments made by the Treasurer which yielded \$147.89 for the general fund, \$1.14 for the cafeteria fund, and \$3.65 for the capital projects fund.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Newton Falls Public Library Trustee

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#22-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education appoint Ann Cicero as trustee of the Newton Falls Public Library to fill the vacant unexpired seven year term, May 1, 2011-May 1, 2018.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

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Invoice/Credit Memo

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#23-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Treasurer of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following invoice/credit memo for payment.

Performance Trucks	\$3,589.25	Air Compressor/Parts
Performance Trucks	<u>(\$1,491.65)</u>	Return of Part/Restocking Fee
	\$2,097.60	

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis

MOTION CARRIED

Superintendent's Report and Recommendations

Report

We had our water tested for lead. We are still waiting on the official results, but the preliminary findings all look good. We have a gentleman working four or five hours a day as a mechanic. He currently works at Maplewood Career Center, and will be retiring. We will be hiring him for our part-time mechanic/part-time bus driver position. We have another gentleman who has been working several hours a day to help us out. If our full-time mechanic goes on disability, we are hoping to bring him in full-time. Both gentlemen are certified mechanics.

I talked to Mr. Crowder about having the pledge of allegiance in the junior high and high school. He is going to talk to Mr. Shelby about making it a part of the morning announcements for students who want to participate.

The school report card came out today. The website was bogged down so I was unable to print off information. We don't have any F's or A's. We have several B's and several D's, but we mostly have C's. There is definitely room for improvement. I will have more details at the March board meeting.

I am now meeting with the principals once a week instead of once a month in an attempt to try to make some changes to improve our report card. We are considering having some delayed starts next year in order to create some common planning time for the teachers. The state has been pushing us to do this for years now. It's been difficult because we don't have a lot of staff. The delayed starts would be approximately two hours.

I distributed the proposed calendar for next school year. It's similar to what we have done in the past. The variances are in November, December, and Easter break. Some districts are taking a full two weeks off at Christmas, and some are taking less. TCTC is taking the Monday after Thanksgiving and we are trying that this year. That Monday is a big hunting day for many people. We also added a day to Easter break. Now it will be Good Friday, Monday, and Tuesday. We can't adopt the calendar until 30 days from now.

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The Board asked if the change in conferences will be part of the new calendar. Mr. Woodard responded that conferences are a negotiated item that will be discussed when contract negotiations begin.

As you remember, we asked our league if we could leave for just football, or if we could have some leeway over our first five football games to soften the schedule. The league decided that they will not allow us to leave just for football nor will they allow us to soften our schedule. We either have to stay in, or leave completely. The league cancelled their next meeting, and we have to turn in our letter by May 1. Now there won't be any meetings before we have to turn in the letter. We have been invited to join several other leagues which we are investigating now. The Board discussed some of the alternatives with the various leagues. Mr. Woodard proceeded to state that the reality is that we can't continue to do what we are doing. We are bringing in about \$17,000 with our football gate, but we are spending \$50,000 out of general fund. We are solid in our other sports. I want to try to build the football program rather than eliminate it. We are trying to get coaches to attend the athletic council meeting next week, and Mr. Crowder and I plan to meet with the different leagues, but ultimately the decision is yours. I will make a recommendation based on my research, but not everybody will agree.

I have five issues for executive session this evening.

Recommendations

Personnel

Certificated

Supplemental Contracts

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#24-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ the following for the 2015/2016 season:

Mark Baker
Jon Hill
Zachary Parent
Rachael Rankin

Assistant Track Coach
JH Track Coach
JH Track Coach
Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Classified

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Employment – James Ewell – Bus Driver

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#25-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ James Ewell as bus driver effective January 18, 2016, for the remainder of the 2015/2016 school year.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Volunteers

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#26-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the following volunteers for the 2015/2016 season:

John Ballas	Volunteer Varsity Softball
James Wainwright	Volunteer Varsity Softball

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Use of School Facilities

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#27-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the use of school facilities consistent with adopted policies and procedures for the following:

Kiwanis Club	May 7, 2016 (May 14, 2016 Rain Date)
Bob Wujcik, President	8:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Andy Jacob Memorial - Junior Olympics	High School Football Field/Track
Mimi's Studio of Dance	May 25, 26, 2016
Mary Lee Sutton, Owner	4:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
	Auditorium - Rehearsal
Mimi's Studio of Dance	May 28, 2016
Mary Lee Sutton, Owner	9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	Auditorium - Recital
	Jr.High Gymnasium - Dressing Room

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ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Memorandum of Understanding - Track

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#28-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the memorandum of understanding for an assistant track coach for the 2015/2016 school year only.

This position is based on the number of kids we have in track.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Items too late for the agenda

Employment – Supplemental Contract

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#29-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ Michael Staton, as assistant softball coach for the 2015/2016 season.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Employment - Diana Dillon

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#30-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education employ Diana Dillon as the cafeteria van driver for the remainder of the 2015/2016 school year, effective February 1, 2016.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Memorandum of Understanding - Facility Managers

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#31-2016

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BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the Memorandum of Understanding as presented.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Newton Falls Public Library Trustee

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#32-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education appoint Ella Johnson as a trustee of the Newton Falls Public Library for the upcoming seven year term (May 1, 2016-May 1, 2023.)

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Old Business

Second Reading of Policies

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the following motion:

#33-2016

BE IT RESOLVED, that upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Newton Falls Board of Education approve the first reading of the following policies: EEAE;EEAD;EEAA;EEA;JECAA;EEAC;EEACC(AlsoJFCC);EEACC-R(AlsoJFCC-R); EEACCA; EEACD;JFCC-R(Also EEACC-R); JECAA-R; JEA;IGBE;JFCJ; JGE and JFCC (Also EEACC).

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

New Business

None

Communications

Mr. Kline

I would like us to purchase a new snow shove for Roy. When I came to the basketball game, I saw Roy shoveling with a shove that looked like it was made in 1947. It was terrible. I asked Mr. Staton about it and he said that Roy needed to look a little harder. Mr. Woodard said that we would purchase new shovels for the custodians.

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Mrs. Koontz

With baseball season approaching, I hope we aren't going to go through this mess about the fields again. Can we talk about it to avoid issues this year? People volunteer to help, but Mike pushes them away. Can we get people together and just do it?

Mr. Woodard stated that they did paint the dugouts on Senior Service Day last year. The coaches can say that they are having a community service clean-up day.

Mrs. Koontz said that we can get parents to prepare the field, but are we going to have issues with Mike kicking them off.

Mr. Woodard

The problem is that there has been a difference of opinion as to when it is appropriate to get on the field. We do the best we can. It's fine to have a clean-up day as long as you let me know about it, but as far as tilling the ground; that should be left for Mike to do when he can get on there.

Mrs. Koontz

There are other people in this area who know what they are doing to prepare a field. I want to see us work together.

Mr. Powell

I think having a clean-up day is a good start. I would just do it.

Mrs. Koontz

Some girls' basketball mothers came to me saying that water is dripping in the girls' locker room shower area. I just wanted to let you know.

Also, a lot of people are saying that Mr. Culp is coming back for track, but I haven't seen anything on it. Mr. Woodard said that Mr. Bugos is thinking of having Mr. Culp be the throwing coach. It will probably be on the March agenda.

Mrs. Davis

This past Saturday, I went to a drug awareness meeting held by the Trumbull County Sheriff's Department and the Drug Task Force. It was very informative about the heroine epidemic. Mr. Dallas said that he used to do a program for the schools and he would be happy to do it again free of charge. I think it would be a great idea. Heroine is becoming a serious problem everywhere.

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Mrs. Koontz asked what happened to our SADD program. Mr. Woodard said that we normally have it, but it didn't get off the ground this year.

Mr. Woodard said that our administrators have been attending positive behavior training. We are going to have an initiative next year to try to help students from K-6 to make good decisions and treat each other with respect. We are working on it this year, but next year will be a full blown initiative.

Mr. Powell asked if the Sheriff's Department could do a presentation at a board meeting. Mr. Woodard is going to check into it.

Executive Session

#34-2016

Mrs. Koontz moved and Mr. Powell seconded the motion to enter into executive session at 7:50 p.m. with no action to follow.

WHEREAS, as a public board of education may hold an executive session only after a majority of the quorum of this board determines by a roll call vote to hold such a session and only at a regular or special meeting for the sole purpose of the consideration of any of the following matters:

- A. To consider **one or more, as applicable**, of the check marked items with respect to a public employee or official:
- 1. _____ Appointment
 - 2. _____ Employment
 - 3. _____ Dismissal
 - 4. X Discipline
 - 5. _____ Promotion
 - 6. _____ Demotion
 - 7. _____ Compensation
 - 8. _____ Investigation of charges/complaints (unless public hearing requested)
- B. To consider the purchase of property for the public purposed or for the sale of property at competitive bidding.
- C. Conferences with an attorney for the public body concerning disputes involving the public body that are the subject of pending or imminent court action.
- D. Preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment.
- E. **Matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or rules or state statutes.**

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- F. Specialized details of security arrangements where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purpose of committing or avoid prosecution for a violation of the law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Newton Falls Exempted Village Schools District Board of Education, by a majority of the quorum present at this meeting, does hereby declare its intention to hold an executive session on items A4, E as listed above.

ROLL CALL: Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Powell, Mr. Ballas, Mr. Kline, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

The Board came out of executive session at 8:37 p.m.

Adjournment

#35-2016

Mr. Ballas moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m. and Mrs. Koontz seconded the motion.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Mr. Ballas, Mrs. Koontz, Mr. Kline, Mr. Powell, Mrs. Davis
MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer

President