

Frank Todisco, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Stonington High School Commons. Members present were Deborah Downie, Candace Anderson, Alexa Garvey, and Craig Esposito.

Also, present were Dr. Van Riley, Superintendent of Schools, Ana de Oliveira, Recording Secretary, members of the staff, and interested citizens.

#### **Swearing In of New Board of Education Members**

Dr. Van Riley began the meeting by announcing that Bill King would be swearing in the new members of the Board of Education. Bill King swore in the following new Board members: Alexa Garvey, Candace Anderson, Alisa Morrison, and Jack Morehouse.

Dr. Van Riley welcomed back the reelected Board members and the new Board members adding he is looking forward to this coming year.

#### **Election of BOE Officers**

Dr. Van Riley stated the first order of business is the election of the Board Chair and asked that the Board of Education members to nominate a Board of Education Chair.

The following motion was made by Deborah Downie and seconded by Alisa Morrison:

**Motion 1: To nominate Frank Todisco as Board of Education Chair.**  
**All: Aye**

Frank Todisco noted the next order of business is the nomination of the Board Secretary and asked if there were any nominations.

The following motion was made by Deborah Downie and seconded by Candace Anderson:

**Motion 2: To nominate Alexa Garvey as Board Secretary.**  
**All: Aye**

#### **Board Presentations**

Stonington High School Drama Production – Frank Todisco invited the Board and community to move into the auditorium for a short preview of the Stonington High School Drama Production, "Little Women" led by drama coach Mrs. Stanley. Mrs. Stanley noted that the fall production would take place on November 17 and 18 at 7pm and November 19 at 2pm in the Stonington High School auditorium.

#### **Communications and Recognitions**

Alexa Garvey voiced that she is glad to be back on the Board. Candace Anderson also commented that when she was appointed last year to the Board it was a huge honor, is grateful to be reelected, hopes that she can serve everyone in the next four years, and is very happy to be here. Alisa Morrison commented she is so happy to be back and it feels like coming home and is thrilled to be elected for another four years. Mrs. Morrison added her phone is always on and door always open, call or email whatever you need. Jack Morehouse noted it was a wonderful experience campaigning, he got to meet many interesting people, got to hear a lot about what people feel about our school system and added he is excited to get to work and make positive progress.

#### **Comments from Citizens**

Sue Jones commented on the Middle School Consolidation and voiced her concerns that it is happening very quickly, and feels that some questions/answers have not made it to any websites. Ms. Jones stated that a December meeting vote is very quick, and also added she is getting a lot of feedback from elementary and middle school parents and feels needs to be a lot more information for a vote in December. Ms. Jones also said she would like to see in the budget a fence put around the soccer field to prevent the recent issue from happening again.

Cindy Nadeau spoke on a couple of safety concerns she has related to Pawcatuck Middle School. Ms. Nadeau's first concern is the stairwell areas of refuge in case of emergency where students can wait for help such as in the situation of a student with physical disabilities and asked if we have these in other buildings and if not why not. Ms. Nadeau feels that we should have a policy in place for a child or adult in an emergency situation when they are disabled especially during a fire