

GISU Executive Committee  
Meeting Tuesday, August 2, 2016  
At North Hero School

Present:

Louise Koss, Isle La Motte  
John Goodrich, Alburgh  
Gary Marckres, Grand Isle  
Judith Wimble, North Hero  
Barbara Burrington, Superintendent  
Lynne Carpenter, Business Manager

Meeting called to order by Louise Koss at 5:07 p.m.

Lynne Carpenter provided the Executive Committee with a handout showing the bid that was presented by STA. Lynne sent Requests for Bids to 3 bus companies, and it was advertised in The Burlington Free Press. Only STA responded with a bid. Terricel sent a letter to Lynne advising they would help us if we were in a bind.

David Crawford set up a meeting between himself, Lynne and STA on Tuesday, August 2, 2016. STA advised they are losing money, they have a hard time getting drivers and keeping them. They do have a new financial person who does the bids, and they are based on hours of service per year. The hours are based on the bus routes that are provided by the Principals. Question was asked where the bus route starts? Is it the school or Milton? Lynne did not have the answer to that question, but it appears that the hours start from Milton. Based on the contract hours for FY17, there is a \$13.72/hour increase over FY16. This ends up being a 29.79% increase over the FY16 contracts. There are cameras and radios in all busses. Question was asked about the cameras that were purchased for the busses in previous years, since new busses would be used in FY17? Grand Isle, Alburgh and North Hero believe they paid for the cameras with local funds. Will they be refunded, will the cameras be moved to the new bus, or will there be a credit on the proposal? Lynne will be looking into this.

Lynne asked the Executive Committee if they wanted a Performance Bond for STA? This would buy us coverage if STA can't perform the service, if they can't find drivers, if we need to hire taxis, etc. It would be an additional \$5000.00 per year, for a \$1,000,000.00 bond, which is not included in the bid. Question was asked if we only wanted a \$500,000.00 Performance Bond, would the yearly price be \$2500.00? Lynne will find out from STA.

Question was asked what if transportation needs change, such as changing start/end times, cutting out a bus, adding a bus, etc? Can we renegotiate the terms of the contract? Committee would like to see a clause in the bus contract that states any changes by 10% more or less in usage (hours/year) or change in number of busses, per school, be added.

Executive Committee would like Lynne to schedule another meeting with STA. Louise Koss will attend, and all other Executive Committee members are welcome. Gary Marckres made a motion to authorize Louise Koss to sign the bussing contract on behalf of the district after electronic review by committee members. Second by Judith Wimble. All in favor.

Louise Koss made a motion to allow Lynne Carpenter to authorize contracts for the district based on 3 fixed years and a maximum of \$150,000.00. Anything over those terms would need to go before the Executive Committee. Second by Gary Marckres. All in favor.

Lynne Carpenter will schedule a meeting with STA and let committee members know when and where it will be.

Motion by Judith Wimble to adjourn; second by Gary Marckres. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:49 p.m.