

**NEW HAMPSHIRE COMMISSION TO STUDY SCHOOL FUNDING  
(RSA 193-E:2-e)**

**Meeting Minutes**

February 10, 2020 at 2PM in LOB 210-211

Present: Rep. David Luneau; Rep. Mel Myler; Val Zanchuk; Susan Huard; Chris Dwyer; Barbara Tremblay; Rep. Rick Ladd; Sen. Jon Morgan; Iris Estabrook; David Ryan; Jan Bergeron-Beaulieu; John Beardmore; Rep. Richard Ames; Mary Heath; Bill Ardinger On Zoom: Sen. Jay Kahn, Susan Huard, and Corinne Cascadden

Not Present: none

Opening Activities

Rep. Luneau called the meeting to order at 2pm.

The meeting minutes from 2/3/2020 were amended to reflect Carsey's provision of periodic progress reports, that language on page three of the commission's contract with Carsey would be clarified around oversight and the commission having final authority regarding subcontracts, and that the F&A charge associated with the contract would be reduced. With those amendments, the minutes passed.

The commission discussed the calendar moving forward, with the New Hampshire Department of Education and Reaching Higher New Hampshire to present at the next meeting on February 21. The March 2<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> meetings were moved to 10am to accommodate conflicts.

Items for Discussion

Rep. Luneau brought up the prospect of the public members of the commission getting reimbursed for their mileage. With no objections, Rep. Luneau and Dr. Mallory will work to get system in place for public commission members to be reimbursed for mileage if they wish.

Dr. Mallory brought up a set of group agreements that he suggested the commission adopt, and the commission briefly discussed why norms and group agreements are an important component of their work given the strong feelings created by the topic of school finance.

Commission members were given a blank sheet to write down their hopes, concerns, questions, and who they would like to hear from during this process so that those could be anonymously recorded by the Carsey School in helping to plan out future commission meetings and agendas.

Dr. Mallory presented the current draft version of the RFP to research vendors. Last week's revisions were discussed, as was the question of what, exactly, are A/B/C properties. It was determined that a subcommittee should be formed to go over the RFP in detail and make revisions before the document was presented back to the commission. This subcommittee will be Chris Dwyer, Rick Ladd, Dave Luneau, Bill Ardinger, and Val Zanchuk.

### Presentations

Daniel Will, Solicitor General in the NH Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, presented about the history of lawsuits around education funding in New Hampshire, the nature of the right to education, what is considered an adequate education, the roles of judiciary and the roles of the legislature, and a bit about the current ConVal school funding litigation.

John Tobin of the NH School Funding Fairness Project urged commission members to read the Claremont II court decision as background. His presentation focused on the division of state and local education obligations, tax requirements, what an adequate education may or may not be, and the difference between defining an adequate education and the legal considerations of funding education.

### Closing Activities

Rep. Luneau reminded the Commission about the next meeting on February 21, 2020.

Adjourn

### Documents

- Draft RFP
- February 3 Revised Minutes
- February 10 Minutes
- February 10 Agenda
- Commission Question Worksheet
- Daniel Will Presentation Slides
- John Tobin Presentation Slides