

**McKeesport Area School District**  
**Regular Board Meeting**  
**September 23, 2009**

**Presiding** Lori Spando, President

**Date, Time, Place** Wednesday, September 23, 2009, 7:30 PM, Board Room,  
Administration Building, 3590 O'Neil Boulevard,  
McKeesport, PA 15132.

**Opening Exercises** Ms. Spando called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM,  
Followed by the Pledge to the Flag.

**Present** James Brown  
Steve Kondrosky  
Joe Lopretto  
Lori Spando  
Barb Stevenson  
Wayne Washowich

Excused. Joe Chiaverini  
David Donato  
Chris Halaszynski

**Others Present** Dr. Michael Brinkos, Superintendent  
Dr. Timothy Gabauer, Assistant Superintendent  
David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary  
James Humanic, Director of Human Resources/  
Assistant to the Business Manager  
George Gobel, Solicitor

**Board President's Remarks** – none

**Superintendent's Report** – I would just like to report that the schools have opened in fine fashion and I would like to commend all the teachers and administrators for how well things are going. I am very pleased with what I see happening in the school and also the student conduct within the school. So I think we're off to a very good start.

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**Treasurer's Report** – Mr. Lopretto moved to acknowledge receipt of the Treasurer's Report for the month of August 2009. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Hearing of Citizens** –

Bridget Dye, 4500 Third Street, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Ms. Dye addressed the Board on the issue of Centennial K-1 room issues.

Dr. Major Mason, 1409 Bailey Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Dr. Mason addressed the Board on the issue of a Seventh Ward site. (See attachment)

Terri Kisan, 2132 Duquesne Avenue, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Mrs. Kisan addressed the Board on the issue of a new elementary school.

Ray Malinchak, 600 Beckman Drive, McKeesport, PA 15132.

Mr. Malinchak addressed the Board on the issue of the budget.

**Minutes** – Mr. Brown moved to approve the minutes of the Open Agenda Meeting of August 13, 2009 and Regular Meeting of August 19, 2009. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Bills** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the list of bills. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

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**Refunds** – Mr. Brown moved to approve property tax refunds. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Field Trips** – Mr. Brown moved to approve the following field trips:

- A. Students in “The Future Is Mine” classes to Hershey Park on October 23-24, 2009.
- B. 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> grade football teams to Akron University and Canton, Ohio on November 7-8, 2009.
- C. High School basketball team to Altoona, PA on January 9-10, 2010.  
Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Contract** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve a nursing contract with Marcia Campagna for the 2009/2010 school year in the amount of \$35.00/hour. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Request** – Mr. Brown moved to accommodate the request of the Township of South Versailles for exempt status for the years 2004-2009 on lot & block 759-H-228. Seconded by Mr. Washowich.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

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**Site** – Mr. Brown moved to select a 7<sup>th</sup> Ward location in McKeesport for a new elementary/intermediate school at either the Cornell site or Centennial site. Seconded by Mrs. Stevenson.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Site** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to designate the Palkovitz property as a potential site for a new elementary/intermediate school and authorize the architect to investigate the site for potential acquisition. Seconded by Mrs. Stevenson. Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Proposal** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to accept the proposal from Garvin, Boward and Beitko for Preliminary Geotechnical Exploration of the Palkovitz property. Seconded by Mr. Washowich.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Proposal** – Mrs. Stevenson moved to accept the proposal from Phillips & Associates for Due Diligence Surveying and Civil Engineering Services for the Palkovitz property. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

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**Green Sheets** – Mr. Brown moved to approve the personnel recommendations (green sheets).  
Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

**PROFESSIONAL:**

RESIGNATION:

1. Betsy Bacon Title I Facilitator, Centennial Elementary School effective 08-26-09.
2. Hilary Deiseroth Science Teacher, Alternative Education, effective 08-26-09.
3. Samantha Humanic Title I Facilitator, McClure Intermediate School, effective 08-26-09.
4. Candice Jacko Long Term Substitute Math Teacher, Alternative Education, effective 09-02-09.
5. Nicole Judy Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, Geo. Washington Elementary School, effective 09-14-09.
6. Debbie Sauter Long Term Substitute Special Education Teacher, Founders' Hall, effective immediately.

TO BE HIRED: Effective 08-26-09:

1. Samantha Humanic Science Teacher, Alternative Education  
Step 1M \$37,100.00

TO BE HIRED: Long Term Substitute: Rate of pay will be \$80.00/day + benefits an increase to \$125.00 on the 61<sup>st</sup> day:

- 1.\* Jeffrey Zanetti Math Teacher, Alternative Education, effective (Moody) 09-08-09.
2. Mary Russo Special Education Teacher, Founders' Hall effective approximately 09-18-09.

TO BE HIRED: Title I Facilitator for the 2009-2010 school year. Rate of pay will be either \$95.00/day + benefits or \$105.00/day without benefits:

1. Matthew Bauman Title I Facilitator, McClure intermediate School effective immediately.

CHANGES: Extra Curricular Activities effective for the 2009-2010 school year:

1. Karen Cole From: Additional work with Band  
To: Band Director  
Salary: \$4,170.00

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2.	Mark DeCarlo	From:	Band Director
		To:	Additional work with Band
		Salary:	\$2,742.30

RESIGNATION: Extra Curricular Athletics effective for the 2009-2010 school year:

1.	Doug Zott	7/8 Grade Football Coach (shared)
2.	Stefanie Burgh	Girls Soccer Coach
3.	Jen Pappasergi	Assistant Girls Soccer Coach
4.	Candice Jacko	7/8 Grade Girls Soccer Coach
5.	Radu Mercea	Boys Soccer Coach (effective 09-11-09)
6.	Jim Poston	Assistant Boys Soccer Coach (effective 09-11-09)

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Athletics effective for the 2009-2010 school year:

1.	Candice Jacko	7/8 Girls Soccer Coach (shared)	\$ 793.10
2.	Stefanie Burgh	7/8 Girls Soccer Coach (shared)	\$ 793.10
3.	Candice Jacko	7/8 Boys Soccer Coach (1/2)	\$ 793.10
4.	Eric Smith	7/8 Football Coach (shared)	\$1,153.60
5.	Jim Poston	Boys Soccer Coach (effective 9-12-09)	\$2,210.46
6.*	Glenn Beech	Assistant Boys Soccer (effective 9-12-09)	\$1,163.40

TO BE HIRED: Extra Curricular Activities effective for the 2009-2010 school year:

1.	Vickie Redmond	SADD Advisor	High School	\$ 831.00
2.	Mike Locke	Skills USA (shared)	High School	\$ 831.00
3.	Monica Kitta	Skills USA (shared)	High School	\$ 831.00
4.	Nancy Mols	AV (shared)	McClure	\$ 360.50
5.	Kerry Ochap	AV (shared)	McClure	\$ 360.50
6.	Nancy Mols	Stage (shared)	McClure	\$ 288.40
7.	Kerry Ochap	Stage (shared)	McClure	\$ 288.40
8.	Marilyn Bevington	Audio Visual	Cornell	\$ 721.00
9.	Amy Montalbano	Stage (shared)	Cornell	\$ 288.40
10.	Bonnie Haver	Audio Visual	Centennial	\$ 721.00
11.	Doris Martino	Stage	Centennial	\$ 576.80
12.	Lisa Petrilli	Audio Visual	GW	\$ 721.00
13.	Amy Navaroli	Stage	GW	\$ 576.80
14.	Michelle Pipak	Audio Visual	White Oak	\$ 721.00
15.	Michelle Pipak	Stage	White Oak	\$ 576.80
16.	Paul Kikuchi	Audio Visual	Founders' Hall	\$ 793.10

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17.	Mark DeCarlo	Stage	Founders' Hall	\$ 576.80
18.	Ed Bostedo	Drama Club	Founders' Hall	\$ 793.10
19.	Paul Kikuchi	Photographer	Founders' Hall	\$ 721.00
20.	Lori Hegedus	Newspaper	Founders' Hall	\$1,009.40
21.	Jen Bergman	Yearbook	Founders' Hall	\$1,009.40
22.	Pat McGuire	Student Council	Founders' Hall	\$ 180.25
23.	Robin Canova	Student Council	Founders' Hall	\$ 180.25
24.	Kris Nemchick	Student Council	Founders' Hall	\$ 180.25
25.	Ed Pupich	Student Council	Founders' Hall	\$ 180.25

CONFERENCE REQUESTS:

- Chris Kastronis  
Mary Ann LaFever  
Chris Starry

Beyond School Hours XIII  
Sponsored by Foundations, Inc. in  
Jacksonville, FL  
February 17, 2010 through February 20, 2010  
(Paid for by 21<sup>st</sup> CCLE Cohort 4 Grant)  
\$2,008.50/each
- Betsy Hochstine

NCTM Regional Conference and Exposition  
Sponsored by the National Council of Teachers  
of Mathematics in Nashville, TN  
November 18, 2009 through November 20, 2009  
(Paid for by Title I Funds)  
\$2,159.80
- Monica Kitta  
Mike Locke  
(10) students

Skills USA Leadership Conference  
Sponsored by Skills USA at the  
Seven Springs Conference Center  
November 5, 2009  
(Paid for by the Perkins Grant)  
\$500.60

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE TEACHER LIST:

ADDITIONS:

- \* Kathleen Adamek                      Elementary
- Kathaleen Bartilson                  Elementary
- \* Holly Breckenridge                  German
- \* Cynthia Cochran                      Elementary

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5.*	Colleen Ellig	Elementary
6.*	Jeffrey Krznic	Mathematics
7.	Krystal Kustra	Elementary
8.*	Kristen Oeler	Elementary
9.*	Ashley Trpcic	Elementary
10.	Ivan Hampton	Health and PE and Dean of Students

**DELETIONS:**

1.	Brian Bungard	Elementary
2.	Laura Conley	Elementary
3.	Shelia Haut	Elementary
4.	Lauren Pope	English

**BOARD ACTION TO ELIMINATE THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL POSITION EFFECTIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR:**

- (1) Grade 5 at Cornell Intermediate School

**BOARD ACTION TO CREATE THE FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL POSITION EFFECTIVE AT THE BEGINNING OF THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR:**

- (1) Grade 4 at McClure Intermediate School

**TO BE HIRED: Effective for the 2009-2010 school year:**

1.	Kevin S. Ryan, D.D.S.	School Dentist	\$2,000.00
2.	Doris Archer	School Dental Assistant	\$1,000.00

**SUPPORT STAFF:**

**RESIGNATION: Effective immediately:**

1.	Allison Adams	Special Education Assistant
2.	Lisa Gaska	Special Education Assistant, Cornell Intermediate
3.	Amy Gumbert	Instructional Assistant, Centennial Elementary
4.	Nancy Irvine	Special Education Assistant, Cornell Intermediate
5.	Krystal Kustra	Special Education Assistant, Founders' Hall (effective 09-11-09)
6.	Heather Rager	General Worker, Food Service Department at White Oak Elementary School
7.	Valerie Chavis	Attendance Officer (withdrew her name from consideration)

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LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Effective 08-24-09:

1. Tanisha Fitzpatrick Special Education Assistant

TO BE HIRED: Effective immediately:

1. Jon Harper Attendance Officer – 200 day Employee.  
Salary \$24,000.00 (pro-rated)
- 2.\* Dondrea Blackwell Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 3.\* Jessica Skiles Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 4.\* Anthony DeSimone Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 5.\* Kandace Thomas Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 6.\* Christina Veason Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 7.\* Andrew Cohen Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 8.\* Vickie Babyak Instructional Assistant, placement pending bidding process. Salary will be \$10,300.00 (pro-rated)
- 9.\* Cilamene Louis Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)
- 10.\* Jean Mercea Special Education Assistant, placement pending bidding process.  
Salary will be \$16,042.50 (pro-rated)

CHANGES TO THE SUBSTITUTE LISTS:

ADDITIONS:

- 1.\* Deborah Altieri Food Service
- 2.\* Michael Smithson Crisis Intervention Specialist
3. Curtis Nelson Crisis Intervention Specialist

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- |     |                  |                             |
|-----|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 4.  | Heather Rager    | Food Service                |
| 5.* | Faith Stewart    | Food Service                |
| 6.* | Margaret Rowe    | Food Service                |
| 7.* | Susan Moore      | Food Service                |
| 8.* | Cathy Kelly      | Food Service                |
| 9.* | Christine Richie | Special Education Assistant |

**BOARD ACTION TO ELIMINATE THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT STAFF POSITION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:**

- (1) Electrician in the maintenance department

**BOARD ACTION TO CREATE THE FOLLOWING SUPPORT STAFF POSITION EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:**

- (1) HVAC/Electrician in the maintenance department

\*Pending results of Act 34, 114 and 151 clearances and T.B. Tine test and Drug Test Results.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Manual** – Mr. Lopretto moved to adopt the Emergency Operation’s Manual as recommended by the Safe Schools Committee. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Roofs** – Mr. Brown moved to approve the roofing bids for Founders Hall and the High School roofs as presented. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky. (To be paid from the Capital Reserve Fund.) Discussion followed.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

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**Firm** – Mr. Brown moved to authorize the firm of Dillon, McCandless, King, Coulter & Graham, LLP to serve as hearing officer/special counsel for the Board of Directors of the McKeesport Area School District for a personnel matter as identified by the Board as case #07032009. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Firm** – Mrs. Stevenson moved to authorize the firm of Dodaro, Matta & Cambest, P.C. to continue representing the McKeesport Area School District on the following cases: GD-08-001036, 2391-CD-2008, and Propel through their conclusion. Seconded by Mr. Brown.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**Agreement** – Mr. Brown moved to approve the Brokers Agreement with Pennsylvania Commercial Real Estate Inc. Seconded by Mrs. Stevenson.

Voting aye. Ms. Spando

Voting no. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

MOTION FAILED.

**Charter** – Mr. Lopretto moved to renew and reauthorize the current 5 year Charter of Propel Charter School – McKeesport, which is set to expire on June 30, 2010, for an additional 5 year term, commencing July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2015, and to authorize the appropriate officials of McKeesport Area School District to execute all necessary documents to reauthorize and renew such Charter. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

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Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Ms. Spando, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

### **Committee Reports**

Athletic – James Brown – no report

Buildings & Grounds – Joseph Chiaverini – not in attendance – Board discussed the letter received from J.C. Pearce Lt.

Cultural Diversity – Wayne Washowich – no report

Education/Technology/Grants & Outside Funding – Steven Kondrosky - Absolutely, we always have meetings because Dr. Brinkos, Dr. Gabauer, Mike Matta, Cathy Lobaugh, Patty Scales and Jason Davidek are always informed and they always like to share that with me. I'm going to cut it short. Dr. Brinkos shared the beginning of the school year and gave us an update that he shared with you today that was very nice. Dr. Gabauer and Dr. Lobaugh were very informative with the curriculum what we come up with in order to educate our children from Pre K to 12<sup>th</sup> grade. And the tutoring program, Mrs. Scales and the monies that are available and the funds that she is going out there and trying to grant for the McKeesport Area School District. Mr. Davidek is coming up with really nice advertising that we'll be able to share with the whole district. Dr. Brinkos you liked that and so did I and so did Dr. Gabauer. I think that was very nice that he presented to us with the potential that it has and I'm looking forward to us going further with that and once again Dr. Brinkos was adamant about how we must increase our PPSA scores and what we're going to do and how we're going to tackle that just like George Smith wants all his defensive players to do and how we're going to make sure that we raise these scores. Thank you.

Financial Affairs – David Donato – not in attendance

Legislation/Policy – Barbara Stevenson – no report

Personnel – Chris Halaszynski – not in attendance

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Safe Schools – Joe Lopretto – We did have a meeting. I would like to thank Dr. Gabauer for getting all of the principals together for it. It was very productive. We talked about a lot of different issues for the most part everybody thinks the schools are as safe as possible. We're in the process of running some new cable lines in the high school and Founders Hall for some dead areas for cameras that we want to enlighten and put on screen. I think once that is all completed, the kids are going to be in a very very safe school. Also in the book that they put together, Angie Cale and Wayne Wade did an excellent job putting it together. My hat is off to them. The auditors liked it and if you ever get a chance to read it from front cover to back, it's a thick book, but very interesting.

**Solicitor's Report** – no report

**Correspondence** – none

**New Business** –

**Settlement** – Mr. Kondrosky moved to approve the settlement agreement between MESPA and McKeesport Area School District regarding case #2391-CD-2009. Seconded by Mr. Lopretto.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Stevenson, Mr. Washowich

Voting no. Ms. Spando

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

**H1N1** – Dr. Brinkos explained the precautions taken for the H1N1 virus.

**Offer** – Mr. Washowich moved to accept the gracious offer from JC Pearce to do some schematic work at no cost to the school district. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Discussion followed.

**Table** – Mrs. Stevenson moved to table. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Stevenson

Voting no. Mr. Brown, Ms. Spando, Mr. Washowich

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

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VOTE ON ORIGINAL MOTION.

Voting aye. Mr. Brown, Ms. Spando, Mr. Washowich

Voting no. Mr. Kondrosky, Mr. Lopretto, Mrs. Stevenson

Excused. Mr. Chiaverini, Mr. Donato, Mr. Halaszynski

MOTION FAILED.

**Adjournment** – 8:30 PM – Mr. Lopretto moved for adjournment. Seconded by Mr. Kondrosky.

Voting aye. All Members present.

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_  
David M. Seropian, Business Manager/Board Secretary