

Select Board Minutes
Joint Meeting of
Amherst School Committee and
Select Board
April 27, 2007
5:45 p.m.
Town Room, Town Hall

Attendees:

Gerry Weiss, Chair, Select Board
Anne Awad, Select Board
Alisa Brewer, Select Board
Hwei-Ling Greeney, Select Board
Rob Kusner, Select Board
Laurence Shaffer, Town Manager
Kathleen Anderson, School Committee
Elaine Brighty, School Committee
Andy Churchill, Chair, School Committee
Sonia Correa Pope, School Committee
Jere Hochman, School Superintendent

Andy Churchill said that the purpose of the meeting is to elect the successor to Alisa Brewer to serve on the School Committee. The election would be conducted consistent with Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 41, Section 11 entitled "Appointment to fill vacancy in town office." The Chair of the meeting was Andy Churchill. The four candidates for the position are:

Yaniris Fernandez, 893 West Street, Amherst, MA
Catherine Sanderson, 23 Alyssum Drive, Amherst, MA
Chrystel Romero, 54 Justice Drive, Amherst, MA
John S. Lord, 84 Glendale Road, Amherst, MA

The meeting was opened at 5:45 PM.

A statement was read by Elaine Brighty which disclosed her contact with four members of the Select Board to express her concerns about one of the candidates. Four members of the Select Board, Anne Awad, Hwei Ling Greeney, Rob Kusner, and Gerry Weiss expressed concerns about her contact with them. Ms. Awad and Ms. Greeney said that the calls were an attempt to influence their votes and seemed to reveal information about a candidate that was confidential.

Each one of the candidates was asked a question by each of the members of the Selection Committee. Each one of the candidates was invited to make a general statement and at the conclusion of the meeting, the board conducted a roll call vote to select the successor.

That roll call vote was as follows:

Anne Awad - Chrystel Romero
Kathleen Anderson - Chrystel Romero
Alisa Brewer - Yaniris Fernandez
Hwei-Ling Greeney - Chrystel Romero
Gerry Weiss - Chrystel Romero
Rob Kusner - Chrystel Romero
Andy Churchill - Yaniris Fernandez
Sonia Correa Pope - Yaniris Fernandez
Elaine Brighty - Yaniris Fernandez

The tally was conducted, Chrystel Romero was awarded the election with five votes, Yaniris Fernandez received four votes, the other two candidates Dr. Sanderson and Mr. Lord received no votes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Approved at the August 1, 2007 Select Board Meeting.