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Budget Minutes 06/04/2007

Arlington School Committee

Budget Subcommittee

June 4th, 2007

7 PM.

Present:

Sean Garballey, Chair

Sue Sheffler

Joe Curran

Also Present:

Nate Levenson

Ron Spangler

Barbara Goodman

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM.

1.) Fee's- generating revenue

The Budget Subcommittee had its first discussion about generating revenue in hopes of reducing some of the fees. The subcommittee discussed trying to collaborate with many different groups in town, including the Arlington High School Alumni Association, various booster clubs, the Touchdown Club, etc. The subcommittee's meeting was mainly for deciding whether or not the subcommittee wanted to proceed in trying to generate revenue through fundraising.

It was determined that to reduce athletic fee's an amount of \$150,000 to \$200,000 would have to be raised. The committee discussed four possible ways to generate revenue. One way in which revenue could be generated for the purpose of reducing fees would be to ask for donations by holding some kind of an event. The Budget Subcommittee also discussed the possibility of selling of advertising. Another option of raising revenue was trying to receive straight donations. Another option of raising revenue that was discussed was working with Town Treasurer Stephen Gilligan to see if there could be a check-off box on the tax bill that would allow people to make a donation.

The subcommittee's discussion on generating revenue was just to see if there was acceptance from the subcommittee to proceed on trying to put together a fundraising plan.

2.) Special Education Cost

Former School Committee member Barbara Goodman came before the subcommittee to discuss the cost of Special Education. She was confused about numbers that the Superintendent was using when he spoke about out of district placements for Special Education. Mrs. Goodman was disappointed because she felt that there was not any substantial data that could back-up the Superintendents statement on Special Education. The Superintendent stated that at the next School Committee meeting he would state that it is his opinion that the school system could save a lot of money in trying to bring Special Education students back into Arlington from out of district placements.

On a motion by Mr. Curran, seconded by Mrs. Sheffler, it was VOTED to adjourn at 8:15 PM. 3-0.

