

GPS Food Service Program Review Committee

Date: December 21, 2018

Place: Havemeyer Boardroom, 290 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT

Present: Committee: John Hopkins, Abbe Large, Jeff Ramer, Lauren Rabin,
Guest: Ralph Mayo, Eugene Watts

The meeting was called to order by John Hopkins at 11:05 AM.

1. Discussed financial update on the program. John Hopkins distributed the November 26, 2018 B.O.E. Financial Report and discussed in detail. Based on the timing of the committee's 1/16/19 meeting the next financial report may be available if it has been posted to Board Docs.
2. Discussion of the RFP process. John handed out two documents:
 1. USDA's (FSMCs) Developing Solicitations and Contracts
 2. Sample RFP from Fairfield Schools, Fairfield, CT

We discussed the RFP process and how best to approach it with regards to Greenwich. It was determined that a "divide and conquer" approach would work best and to assign committee members certain sections to work on.

Jeff Ramer offered a suggestion that the committee pursue two different approaches when developing an RFP, both specific to the district's needs, wants and goals. First approach would be a standard Food Service Management Company (FSMC) taking control of the current USDA operating model used by Greenwich. The second approach would be developing an RFP with an innovative concept of delivering a healthy meal service.

It was determined that the administration would begin work on the first approach and Ms. Large and Ms. Rabin would begin work on the second approach. As the RFP's are developed, they will be made available to committee members in the BOE's Google Drive.

3. Ms. Rabin brought up wanting to pilot a program at one of the district's schools. Ms. Large indicated that she has done research on this company's operating model and how it could benefit both the student population nutritionally and the Board of Education financially. It was confirmed that the BOE did have the power to remove school(s) from the National School Lunch Program as it did with Greenwich High in 2014, if this pilot was going to be pursued. Eugene Watts (Purchasing) was present to listen to the concept of a "sole source" provider and indicated an RFP is not required.

Ms. Rabin will put this (the pilot proposal) on the agenda of the Board of Education in January for the February 21, 2019 Board of Education meeting.

The meeting ended at 12:00PM. The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2019 at 4:00PM.