

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
April 19, 2023 7:00 PM
Town Hall, Conference Room #4

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DATE: July 20, 2023
TIME: 9:19 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Bill Anderson, Anne Helgen, Laurie Slap, Matt Taylor, Jack Weis

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 PM.

Discussion of FY 24 Warrant Committee Budget Report

The subcommittee began discussing the initial draft of the report that was submitted to Geoff Lubien on April 14th.

The format of the Budget Overview section largely follows what has been done in prior years. There were minimal comments to Bill's draft of this section, with the most substantive suggestion being to point readers to the later sections of the chapter rather than repeating the specific points themselves.

The group spent most of the timing discussing the Enrollment and Staffing sections that Matt had drafted. In general people were very impressed with the level of depth and analysis that Matt put into those sections. Moreover, the group was also impressed by the graphic tables and charts that Matt created, agreeing that these generally helped make the sections more readable, particularly to those readers who digest visual information more readily. At the same time, the general sentiment was that the two sections were too long (given that the Ed Subcommittee chapter on the School Department budget is just one chapter of the overall Warrant Committee report and there have been concerns expressed in the past about the overall size of the Warrant Committee report). Matt will work to edit the sections down and will coordinate with Paul on the staffing section. Jack agreed to reach out to Geoff to see if he is open to moving some of the data in Matt's current draft into an overall Warrant Committee report appendix.

The subcommittee did not get to the chapter sections on SPED, federally-funded positions, or the new union contracts. The group agreed to meet again on April 24th to continue the discussion regarding those sections of the Ed Subcommittee chapter. In addition, the group agreed that each member would come up with their own list of major conclusions and recommendations for our chapter of the report and that we will discuss those at the next meeting as well.

Two members of the public attended the meeting. At the end of the meeting we invited them to ask questions or offer any comments. That led to a wide-ranging discussion on the budget development process, the role of the Warrant Committee, and communications issues in general.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.