

AHS Mascot Committee Meeting Minutes #5

Thursday, September 9, 2021

AHS Library 7:00 PM

Attendees:

Miesha Acevedo, Libby Arsenault, Peter Campbell, Kristen Comeau, Kerri Dalton, Paul DiLorenzo, Glen Gearin, Hannah Schalck, Sam Wilmot

Members not present: Robert Capelli, Callista Chabot, Chris DiNuzzio, Steve Gross, Paige Hanson, Alexandra Labrecque, Marc Ouellet, Tom Waldron, Aidan Whittier

Two members of the public present

Administrative Items:

- Minutes of August 26th meeting were reviewed but not voted on (not enough members in attendance)
- Glen read a copy of Gene Weeden's letter that was sent to him (duplicate of previously received letter)

Discussions and Task Items:

- **Guest Speaker:**
 - Miesha introduced Maria Wilkins, a Native American resident of Salisbury and graduate of AHS class of '83; her mother was also in attendance and is also a former AHS student
 - Maria has been advocating for a mascot change since she graduated; her first request to Elizabeth McAndrews was in 2007
 - She believes Native history should be taught at every grade level; no more dressing students up like Indians for Thanksgiving; true version should be taught about Columbus
- **Survey**
 - Miesha finalized survey using Google Forms
 - Target date of 9/20/21 to make it "live" for one week
 - Survey will be available via City of Amesbury website, Mayor's phone notification system, social media (FB Amesbury Talks, alum groups, etc.)
 - HS students will receive survey in their school email and have the opportunity to answer it during "WIN" block
- **Recommendation**
 - Not enough members in attendance to vote on a formal recommendation to the Superintendent and we would like to have the survey results to accompany it
 - Glen to discuss options with Elizabeth McAndrews (extended deadline, emergency meeting, etc.)

Final AHS Mascot Committee Meeting TBA by Glen via email on Monday, 9/13/21