

**Hague School Advisory Committee (SAC) Meeting
Thursday, 03 October 2024, 10:00AM
Town of Hague Community Center and Zoom**

Present: Jack Bast, Linda Fusco, Peter Carney, Sandy Smith, Beth Barton-Navitsky and Susan DeLarm-Sandman

On Zoom: Sally Thurston

Absent: Amanda Peterson, Kathe Allen

Meeting opened at 10:03 am

Pledge of Allegiance

Approved Minutes from 09/06/2024 SAC Meeting

Jack Bast gave us the very sad news that Rolly Allen had passed away yesterday, 10/02/2024.

Meeting Notes

1. The September Town Board meeting was well attended with a round of applause for the SAC efforts extended.
2. The September 17th Ticonderoga School Board meeting was also well attended. Ginger Kuenzel spoke up about using Zoom for Ticonderoga School Board meetings going forward. Jonathan Smith also spoke about a history with the Ti School Board meetings not acknowledging Hague members.
3. September 19th a meeting was held by Jack Bast and Supervisor, Josh Patchett with Scott Nephew and Mark Russell from Ticonderoga. The concerns raised dealt with them not coming to Hague for budget meetings. In the past, John McDonald always came to Hague to meet with residents. Mark agreed that they would try to be more aware and specifically with regard to educational issues raised by Hague.
4. It was also pointed out that Hague is not included in any discussions regarding PILOT agreements despite being in one school district with Ticonderoga. Hague is not benefiting monetarily in any way from the PILOT agreements. Moreover, it appears that the Essex county PILOT agreements are the worst in the entire state.
5. If Ticonderoga would include PILOTs in the school tax apportionment it would help Hague. Hague should be included going forward in discussions that affect us.

6. Discussed Peter writing a White Paper on the issues related to the PILOT agreements which would increase awareness of the inequitable treatment of Hague.
7. There was some discussion regarding the need for an attorney, and a 2025 budget item set if Hague must resort to litigation, all else failing. Jack will push for upcoming 2025 Budget inclusion.
8. Discussion about Ticonderoga students who are being bullied by posts on Facebook pages. The concern is great enough that it should be investigated further.
9. The Ticonderoga Board of Education meeting will be held on October 9th at 8:00 am in Scott's office.

The next SAC meeting will be held Thursday, November 7th at 10:00 am.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan DeLarm-Sandman