



Board of Directors
Regular Monthly Meeting
Tuesday January 29, 2013 6:00 – 8:00 pm

MINUTES - APPROVED

The meeting took place at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 601 N. Tejon St., Colorado Springs, CO 80903

- I. Call to Order - Ms. Issagholian called the meeting to order at 6:18pm after the foundational exercise for a healthy board.
 - a. Roll Call – Neah Douglas, Laurie Ristig, Melanie Chadwick, Caren Tackett, Eva Manz-Jackson, Elise Bowen, Rita Issagholian, Marty Schneider, Raj Solanki, Sandra Johnson-Benning, Jeff Evans. ABSENT – Linda Johnson
 - b. Public Comment (3 min per speaker) – None
 - c. Approval of Minutes from Jan. 13, 2013 meeting – 2 revisions/reconsiderations:
 - i. Preschool enrollment – we voted for “first come, first serve” for preschool assuming they’d have priority for kindergarten. We’ve learned that we may not guarantee Kindergarten spots for fee paying preschool student. We are learning more about how the process works and will simply comply with the law. It seems that we must have early lottery for preschoolers. Rita Issagholian motioned to rescind the vote. Elise seconded. Motion passes.
 - ii. Offering a second foreign language in year one – No commitment for 2nd foreign language in charter application. Ease off the first year. Rita Issagholian motioned to rescind the vote and reconsider at a later time, through possible enrichment programs or implementing it in a second year. Laurie Ristig seconded. Motion passes.
 - iii. Laurie Ristig motions to approve the minutes from the January 13th, 2013 meeting with the above changes to the minutes. Marty Schneider seconded. Motion passes.
- II. Board Training
 - a. Sunshine Law and Robert’s Rules of Order – Raj made a presentation on both and offered handouts to all present.
 - b. Review Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws – Critical provisions were reviewed by Rita Issagholian and advised all that the Board would vote on approving them at the next meeting.

- c. Board Training Modules – Modules 1, 2 & 3 – Not all board members were ready. Decided to discuss them along with modules 6, 5 & 6 at the next board meeting.

III. Operational Business

- a. Policy Review (Rita)
 - i. Changes to bylaws
 - 1. Discussed change to number of board members from 7-15 to 5-11 and board term to 1-3 years for the first term.
 - 2. Discussed anti nepotism policy and decided to look into it further
 - ii. Board members were advised that all continuing board members will need to complete board applications for term beginning on July 1.
- b. Reports
 - i. Site committee – (Jeff and Melanie)

Discussion took place about need to (1) consider old CS Christian School site on N. Weber, which has several modular buildings and is already zoned as a school. Site located at 828 N. Wooten is not zoned as a school and may not be a viable option due to the significant financial impact of retro-fitting and re-zoning the building, (2) Melanie will explore Midland School as an option (3) D11 vote on the re-purposing of various schools is February 6th, 2013. Follow up with John Griego re possibilities.
 - ii. Director's report on budget & CCSP grant (Neah)

Budget without the Startup Grant (CCSP - \$187,000-\$215,000 per year for three years) was reviewed line-by-line. CSI funding begins in mid-July. Neah recommends we hire an Assessment Coordinator at half-time for the first year and not hire a Community Development Director as the School Director will be doing some of that work. This will result in a \$1,000 money savings. Discussion was also made about the cost of benefits, and the possibility of revisiting options for teacher's health benefits. We will know in March if MSCS get the CCSP grant which will help with our Technology program, health and wellness, curricular resources, garden education, furniture, salaries for two employees for three months before the CSI funding goes through, etc.
 - iii. Hiring committee (Neah & Raj)
 - 1. Pete Ristig gave us a structure for job postings.
 - 2. Prepare employee handbook – working on it.
 - 3. Discussion and votes will be made at the next Board Meeting regarding employees' salaries.
 - 4. Next hiring committee meets February 4th.
 - iv. Enrollment committee update (Elise)
 - 1. 251 kids are entering the lottery as of now plus another 57 intent-to-enroll forms yet to be entered (some with multiple children).
 - 2. We need a Spanish-speaking person available to contact non-English speaking lottery winners
 - v. Nutrition and wellness committee meets on March 5th at 6pm at Grace Church.

- c. Strategic Plan Review - Middle school-specific outreach (Elise) - Half-page flyers were sent out with the 5th grade folders of D11 students in 10 schools.

IV. Old Business

- a. Gofundme (Neah) – share site on FB status once every couple of days, consider contributing, important social movement in COS.
- b. Non action item – Neah as school director – Discussion took place in Neah’s absence. The board will vote on it at the next board meeting.

V. Adjournment

- a. Next Board meeting: TBD during the week of February 11, 2013.
- b. Motion to adjourn. Meeting adjourned 9:10pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

_____/s/_____
Laurie Ristig/Secretary
February 11, 2013