



Thursday, August 13, 2020 @6:02 p.m.
Board Meeting via Zoom

Meeting ID: 960 1679 2579

Password: Y6%?TR

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of July minutes
3. Adoption of Board Meetings Calendar
4. Adoption of Board Committees Document
5. Board Committee Reports
6. Schools Report: Dr. Garcia, Ms. Singletary, and Ms. Chesney
7. Adjournment

Trustees Present

Richard Bayles
Gretchen Pusch
Justin Tolliver
Noel Acey
Peter Low
Amanda Low
Jonathan Stearns
Tanya Hoffler-Moore
Susan Reid

Storefront Academy Staff:

Dr. Nicole Garcia, CEO

Ms. Taleema Chesney, Harlem Principal

Ms. Carol Singletary, South Bronx Principal

Ms. Yoselyn Fernandez, South Bronx Assistant Principal

Ms. Amia Fisher, Dean of Harlem

Ms. Jennifer Johnson, Director of Student Support

Mr. Matthew Tiwary, Technology Manager

Mr. Stuart Wolf, Director of Finance

Ms. Maria Ruiz, CEO Executive Assistant

Ms. Elizabeth Ruiz, Harlem Registrar

Ms. Lorena Rodriguez, South Bronx Registrar

Ms. Natalia Perez, Director of Communications

Ms. Dignorlyn Poweriet, Director of Development

Ms. Ghanmawati Khelewan, Food Service Manager

Ms. Nidia Evangelista, Director of Operations

1. Call to Order

Mr. Bayles called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

2. Adoption of July Minutes

Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the minutes from the previous meeting. All members agreed, and the minutes from the previous meeting were adopted.

3. Adoption of Board Meetings Calendar

Mr. Bayles moved to adopt the board calendar as previously provided to all members. All members agreed, and the calendar was adopted.

4. Discussions

- Mr. Bayles ascertained from Mr. Stearns and Mr. Low that they were willing and able to serve in the Financial Committee, and that an executive member would be appointed thereafter to such committee.
- The various Committees should hereinafter meet at least the second Tuesday of the month, or approximately a week before the main meeting with all members, in order to plan ahead, discuss relevant subjects, and be better prepared for the all-member meeting. A schedule would be prepared at a later time and forwarded to all members for attendance if desired, and upon approval of the specific committee chair, if the attendee is not a member of such committee.
- The Real Estate Committee should remain open throughout the upcoming school year in case more space or accommodations are needed, given the ever-changing circumstances.
- Mr. Bayles informed the group that Mr. Tolliver would chair the Real Estate Committee, and Ms. Acey would be part of such committee.

- The Development Committee still had no chair, and one would be appointed when more board members are assessed.

- There were prospective committee members being assessed to participate in various committees in the near future.

5. Board Committee Reports

Finance Committee

- Mr. Wolf stated that the CSP had been approved, and the institution still had \$1.25M available for the upcoming 18-month period.

- The institution had funds available, due to the unexpected shutdown, which would be used to update the institutions and prepare for the upcoming school cycle.

- The government aids due to the COVID pandemic are challenging due to governmental standards changing, and that any aid that qualifies for repayment forgiveness should be thereafter forgiven, since the institutions kept every employee on the payroll.

- Dr. Garcia stated that the institution would apply for approximately \$250K in grants under the CARES Act, which will be used in part to replace and update infrastructure and technology in order to prepare for the upcoming school year.

Governance Committee:

- Mr. Stearns informed the board that new members would be assessed in the upcoming weeks, and that existing members should forward names of prospective members to the Committee Chair.

6. School Reports

- The new hiring process, as implemented, was successful in identifying each candidate's strengths, personalities, and commitment, therefore increasing the confidence on the education services to be provide by the institution. Further, the hiring effort had been the first-ever entirely virtual hiring process, and it was effective.

- Different platforms and methods were used for the hiring process, and the leaders' expectations were clearly stated. The institution is ready to execute the mission, despite the challenges of remote learning.

- The South Bronx School had 370 students enrolled at the time. The target for this school was 335 students.

- The Harlem School had 70 students enrolled, but many students would enroll in the upcoming weeks and increase the enrollments there; the expectation was that approximately 100 students would be enrolled. The target for this school was 75 students.

7. Executive Session

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.