



Planning Committee Meeting

Time: February 20 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join on Zoom:

Meeting ID: 880 8526 8209

Passcode: 510041

Present: Stephanie Sams, Rob Harrahill, June Thomas, Ashley Brooks, Alison Hynd, George Hynd, Summer Brown, Trey Zimmerman.

Minutes

1. Meeting called to Order by Stephanie at 9:32 am.
2. Motion to adopt the agenda for 2/20/21 by Rob. Seconded by Alison. Unanimously accepted.
3. Motion to approve minutes from 2/01/21 meeting by Alison. Seconded by Rob. Unanimously accepted.
4. There were no public comments. Motion to move into executive session for personnel matters made at 9:34 am by Stephanie. Seconded by Alison. Unanimously accepted.
5. Executive Session for personnel matters

Stephanie made a motion to end Executive Session at 10:06 am. Rob seconded. Unanimously accepted.

6. Action Items:

- a. Planning Committee Member – Addition of Ashley Goverman as a member.

7. Information Items:

a. Enrollment

Stephanie stated there is a waiting list for all grades. Currently there are 139 applicants. Applications are coming in daily. Stephanie suggested we come up with a deadline for parents to accept spot by end of May and pay student dues to hold spot for commitment. Ashley B. says the beginning of May is good.

b. Staffing

Stephanie conveyed that there are a great number of teacher applications. There are career fairs coming up. Rob moved up hiring date. Rob will share information on job posts in March that application date will be extended and will make decisions in 30 days. The candidate pool is talented and passionate. Ashley B. and Stephanie stated there are fifteen slots at Stern Center for training, substitutes, volunteers. Ashley G. is working on a grant through Daniel Island that would be for Imagination Station. Stephanie says there is a folder on the drive with submitted grants.

Ashley B. says Melissa stated we can put two part time assistants in budget. Suggest relationship with COFC or Citadel for assistants. Alison will follow up on this.

c. Marketing

Stephanie said Rob has been working with Erskine and will do a video filming in March. Also working with Alliance doing videos of stories. Parents suggested selling t shirts and masks. Ashley G. suggested presenting various questions on social media.

d. Finance

Ashley B. is working with Joseph at Community Trust for loan to access the P&I funds.

e. Facility

Stephanie and Trey are working on securing the building for Gates. He has submitted the Letter of Intent and Contract. Trey is hopeful Contract will be ratified this week. The seller does not want Gates to put sign up until June 30, 2021. Trey is dealing with staff member that has charter school financing experience.

The seller will use and enter back of building. Seller will not be there physically but need offices for regulatory affairs. Seller will pay rent to Gates. Seller is willing to leave furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Stephanie presented the blueprint on Zoom. OSF has to approve the situation.

Trey has been working with Wayne for design of building. Bidding is going to be sent to 4 places.

Ashley B. suggests we put a stop on any financial interests until we become landlord. Gates deadline with Erskine is Feb. 28, 2021. Stephanie asserted that we will continue to move forward as much as we can.

Once there is a closing date Ashley B. will assume full time Project Manager position. Rob will create a press release to go to the media and/or do face book live. Ashley G. suggests doing a ground breaking ceremony. Stephanie suggests children can sell bricks. Trey will take pictures on process of building.

f. Fundraising

Ashley B. inquired if we could raise money for full time positions for role of playground and physical education. Alison suggested we do an internship. It was advised that we need a certified teacher to oversee these internship positions. Ashley B. stated we can use the handicap parking space for the playground and relocate handicap spaces to other side of building. Rob says playground can be put in a smaller space. Alison asked Ashley B. if we get a physical education teacher is that going to be in the budget or is that fundraising. Ashley B. answer we will absorb additional staffing costs.

Stephanie stated we need to look for an RN. RN can be shared with another school but this will pose several problems and will be difficult in times of Covid. We will announce the position in the Community Meeting. Thereafter, do a fundraiser for medical equipment.

Other Business

Stephanie is working on the Gates School calendar and waiting for approval.

Future events/meetings:

Sat., March 13, 2021 at 9:30 am, board regular meeting.

Thurs., March 18, 2021, 6-7 pm Parent Zoom Community Meeting.

8. Meeting was adjourned 11:13 am.

Submitted by:

June Thomas