

Tall Pines STEM Academy Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: January 20, 2022
Location: Tall Pines Campus – Camp Long, Aiken South Carolina
Commencement Time: 5 pm

Presiding: Michelle Lorio

1. Meeting Opening:

- a. Michelle Lorio called the meeting to order at 5:02pm and Chasity McDaniel read the mission. Tim Meesseman called roll and a quorum was established.
- b. Meeting Attendance:
 - i. Present:
 - Lori Mastromonico, Patsy Smith, Mandy Sims, Tim Meesseman, Michelle Lorio, Chasity McDaniel, Phillip Dersham, Alisa Perry, and Wendy Dietzel
 - ii. Absent:
 - Jennifer Minolfo and Tracie McBride
 - iii. Public members:
 - Stephen Lance, Christie Weimer

2. Old Business

- a. PTA Update
 - i. A few tasks left over from dissolving the PTA
 - Membership fees that were turned in have been opened and returned with a note explaining that the PTA has been dissolved
 - Return records to PTA association
 - Need to file 990 IRS form
 - ii. Will do further research and ask parents about potential PTO involvement
- b. Generic Board Email Address
 - i. This account was disabled and removed from the website
 - ii. Suggestion was made to reactivate generic address as a distribution list for the entire board
- c. Board Insurance and 4% of the budget for the board?
 - i. Board has always been covered with liability insurance
 - ii. We also have accident insurance on students and staff
 - iii. The 4% is the insurance, which is shown on the annual budget

3. Matters for Decision:

- a. Approve November Meeting Minutes:
 - i. November minutes approval has been postponed until February
- b. Monthly Financials:
 - i. Financials for November 2021
 - Tim Meesseman motioned to approve financials for November and Wendy Dietzel seconded

- A vote was taken and accepted unanimously
 - ii. Financials for December 2021
 - Mandy Sims motioned to approve financials for December and Phillip Dersham seconded
 - A vote was taken and accepted unanimously
- c. Replacement of Patsy Smith as ex-officio non-voting representative of Youth Learning Institute
 - i. Stephen Lance willing to step in as interim
 - ii. Patsy Smith will send letter of resignation to make it official
 - Mandy Sims motioned to appoint Stephen Lance as interim, and Chasity McDaniel seconded
 - A vote was taken and accepted unanimously
- d. Adjourn to Executive Session:
 - i. Michelle Lorio motioned to adjourn to Executive Session at 5:49 pm and Wendy Dietzel seconded
 - ii. Tim Meesseman motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:20 pm and Wendy Dietzel seconded
 - iii. Michelle Lorio motioned to take a vote to waive Lori Mastromonico in as permanent principal and was seconded by Wendy Dietzel
 - Votes in Favor: Mandy Sims, Phillip Dersham, Wendy Dietzel, Tim Meesseman, Michelle Lorio
 - Votes Against: Alisa Perry, Chasity McDaniel
 - Vote was taken 5-2, and the majority voted to waive Lori in as permanent principal

4. Matters for Discussion

- a. Finance Committee Updates (Wendy Dietzel):
 - i. N/A
- b. Fundraising Committee Updates:
 - i. We need someone on the board to oversee fundraising and will act as a liaison for the board
 - ii. A decision on the next liaison will be made next month
 - iii. Gym update
 - YLI will likely do flooring and heating/air, making the fundraising burden significantly smaller
 - TPSA needs to focus more on equipment needs for the gym
 - Gym will have two bathrooms
 - Would have to take out additional insurance to use building for events, so it will be used for internal purposes only for now
 - Timeline is a little behind due to COVID, so completion is estimated to complete around April 2022
- c. Principal Search Committee
 - i. No longer applicable

5. Matters of Noting:

- a. School/Principal's Update (Lori Mastromonico)
 - i. Athletics wrapping up a great basketball season
 - ii. Soccer is coming up soon
 - iii. 5K race coming February 19
 - iv. Packs
 - Pack council raised money for two cancer organizations
 - Serotina sponsored a family of 4 at Christmas, including the gifting of two bicycles
 - Drama club performance has been delayed due to COVID
 - v. Upcoming field trips
 - 5th grade going to Charlotte Motor Speedway
 - 8th grade going to Washington DC
 - School is at full enrollment for the first time in 3 years
 - Interest night delayed due to COVID; now scheduled for February 1st
 - Currently 85+ students on list for 5th grade
 - Lottery to be expected
 - MLK Jr parade will be on February 19th
 - Valentine's Day dance happening during the day so that all students can participate
 - 5th and 6th grade in the morning
 - 7th and 8th grade in the afternoon

6. Meeting Finalization:

- a. Review actions to be taken:
 - i. Patsy Smith to send letter of resignation
- b. Next Meeting:
 - i. February 15 @ 5pm
 - ii. Lottery to follow @ 6pm
- c. Comments:
 - i. None
- d. Meeting close:
 - i. It was motioned by Tim Meesseman to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Chasity McDaniel and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7 pm.