

**Tall Pines STEM Academy Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting Date: January 19, 2021**  
**Location: Tall Pines Campus – Camp Long, Aiken South Carolina**  
**Commencement Time: 4 pm**

Presiding: Mandy Sims

**1. Meeting Opening:**

- a. Mandy called the meeting to order at 4:03pm and read the mission. Tim called roll and a quorum was established.
- b. Meeting Attendance:
  - i. Present:
    - Brad Siedschlag, Patsy Smith, Mandy Sims, Tim Meesseman, Tara Heuberger, Kristi Bodie, Chasity McDaniel, Jennifer Minolfo, Sally Tice, Tracie McBride
  - ii. Absent:
    - Michelle Lorio
  - iii. Public members:
    - Stephen Lance, Christie Weimer

**2. Special Guest:**

- a. Stephen Lance, Executive Director of Youth Learning Institute
  - i. Gave overview of Youth Learning Institute

**3. For the Good of the Group**

- a. Presenter: Mandy Sims
  - i. Topic: TPSA bylaws vs the Memorandum of Understanding (Section 4.2 – Responsibilities of the Board)

**4. Old Business**

- a. Patsy Submitted meeting dates to district on the board's behalf
- b. Brad working on two flyers, one with a QR code that leads to a video
  - i. Postcard needs to be finalized by January 22
  - ii. Demographics for mailing to be decided
- c. Brad had interview with Mr. Cofer on the radio
  - i. 15 applications came in immediately following the interview
- d. Sally has been playing phone tag with Chris at Second Baptist Church
- e. Chasity spoke to roughly nine barber shops and salons
  - i. Three confirmed they would allow our brochures in their shops
- f. Jennifer called Family Y, who said they are already involved with a STEM school (distance learning)
- g. Tracie spoke with Minister's Council and send them a brochure. Salvation Army is pending.

**5. Matters for Decision:**

- a. Approve December Meeting Minutes:

- i. Tara motioned to approve November minutes as-is and Tracie seconded
  - b. Monthly Financials:
    - i. Financials for November 2020
      - Kristi motioned to approve financials for November and Chasity seconded
    - ii. Financials for December 2020
      - Tracie motioned to approve financials for December and Jennifer seconded
  - c. End of Course Weight
    - i. Brad suggested 10% weight, which is common with other schools
    - ii. Patsy suggested we keep the weighting system the same as Aiken County since most students will go to an Aiken County high school after Tall Pines
      - Aiken County is waiting on a possible waiver due to COVID-19
    - iii. Tabling decision until April 2021 at the latest
    - iv. Board vote was unanimous to table decision until April
  - d. Adjourn to Executive Session:
    - i. Nothing to discuss.

## 6. Matters for Discussion

- a. Finance Committee Updates (Tara):
  - i. N/A
- b. Fundraising Committee Updates:
  - i. PTA is willing to work with us, however they have been told they cannot do anything directly with the kids
  - ii. Christie Weimer had a fundraising meeting in December with another coming soon regarding a golf tournament
  - iii. 5K race is coming soon with proceeds going toward capital campaign
- c. Lottery Procedure Review:
  - i. Each application is assigned randomly to a number
  - ii. All 200 numbers are laid out as proof and then drawn individually
  - iii. Details about priority to be discussed at another meeting
- d. Determine Assignments for Lottery on February 16:
  - i. Pull numbers from spinner (Sally)
  - ii. Verbally state the numbers (Jennifer)
  - iii. Document the numbers (Mandy)
  - iv. Duplicate the numbers on the board (Tara)

## 7. Matters of Noting:

- a. School/Principal's Update (Brad)
  - i. Back in school from holidays
  - ii. Survey results
    - Majority wanted 4- or 5-day weeks, so we thought it was best to stay at 4 days
  - iii. Cafeteria has been updated with plexiglass to get all students eating in one spot
  - iv. PSAT for high school credit students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade on the 26<sup>th</sup>
  - v. 5K race on the 26<sup>th</sup>
  - vi. Info night coming soon as the Family Y

**8. Meeting Finalization:**

- a. Review actions to be taken:
  - i. Tim and Brad to finish postcard mailing design and details
  - ii. Sally to meet with Second Baptist by end of next week
  - iii. Tracie to meet with Salvation Army
  - iv. Tracie and Sally to work on Gifting Tree grant
  - v. Jennifer to get brochures in realty office
- b. Next Meeting:
  - i. February 16 @ 4:30pm
- c. Comments:
  - i. None
- d. Meeting close:
  - i. It was moved by Tim to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Sally and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 5:57 pm.