

**River Valley Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Meeting # 243
May 15, 2018 7:00 pm**

In Attendance: Officers: Chair: Mark Belanger, Vice Chair: John Siegfried, Secretary: Katherine Brown **Trustees:** Josh Porter, Nina Keery, Nat Coughlin, Pamela Brockmeier Armstrong, Ben Scherz, Alfred Link,

Director: Andy Willemsen

Deb McCrevan, Colin Vandenburg, Jonnie Lyn Evans
Foundation Member- John Gregorio

New Trustees: Susanne Cameron and Todd Atanasoff.

Call to Order: 7:06

Public Comment: none

Acceptance of Previous Minutes:

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Accept Previous Minutes”

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Nina Keery. Board of Directors vote to accept was unanimous. 1 note by Nat Coughlin to add full name of Katherine Martin (new trustee).

Finance Committee Update-

Mark Belanger presented update from Finance Committee meeting. The committee reviewed the following reports: Cash Balances, Statement of Net Position, Statement of cash Flow and Actuals to Budget Fiscal Year as of March 31, 2018. Revenue continues to be up and numbers are looking good.

Refinancing Update

After a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and the Foundation on May 1st, the group decided to take no action regarding refinancing and remain with Citizens Bank through the end of our current ten-year fixed-rate term. Over the past two weeks, the group has re-considered that decision, based in part on receiving a proposal with an improved interest rate from East Boston Savings Bank.

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Ask the Foundation Board to Pursue a Loan with the East Boston Savings Bank”

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Josh Porter. Board of Directors vote to accept was unanimous.

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion “To Authorize the Administration to utilize surplus revenues for the current year. These funds would be used at the Director's discretion for items including staff bonuses, classroom and/or office furniture and equipment, technology, and Montessori Materials. These funds would be spent prior to fiscal year-end and managed in such a way to ensure that spending does not exceed the budget surplus.”

Motion by Pamela Brockmeier Armstrong, 2nd John Siegfried. Board of Directors vote to accept was unanimous.

Accountability Committee Update-

Ben Scherz reported on the Accountability Committee meeting. Parent survey review will be covered in 2 meetings not just one. Ben Scherz reported on the committee's discussion of needs identified through the survey, ways to increase communication between RVCS and community as well as creating a working group to focus on the Parent Survey.

Development Committee Update-

Jonnie Lyn Evans reported on the Development Committee meeting, which had a theme of making connections within the community. Jonnie Lyn Evans reported that Grand Friends Day was a big success with approximately 150 attendees and remarked on the productivity of the Parents Alliance collaboration with the Development Committee. Jonnie Lyn Evans shared information on the leadership gifts; Foundation 63% Board 50%.

Committee on Trustees-

John Siegfried reminded the Board to complete the strength assessment measurement for Julie Wilson so she will have the details she needs to prepare for the Board Retreat.

John Siegfried shared copies of the by-laws, comments included, with the Board and stated that we need 2/3 of Board members for a vote and we need to review for 7 days before voting at the next Board meeting. John Siegfried also discussed Officer voting and general voting procedure for the Board.

John reminded the Board of the Retreat- 11 Chestnut St Amesbury - Julie Wilson will be facilitating.

Director's Report: Andy Willemsen

Solar Power Purchase Agreement Update-

On May 10th, John Gregorio and the RVCS Foundation signed the Power Purchase Agreement with ReVision Energy. Things are now moving along.

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Progress Reports-

A team of teachers brought a draft on new progress reports to the whole faculty for review and feedback. The draft has been modified and the new reports should be ready to be implemented in November.

Parent Survey-

We received 152 responses to this year's Parent Survey, up from 116 last year. The responses were strongly positive for many questions. The few areas that received more than a few "disagree" and "strongly disagree" responses included the progress reports, special education services, and some of our specials programs. The results have been shared and reviewed with the Accountability Committee.

Hillview Montessori-

New director Phil Arnold Andy Willemsen met with him and sees an opportunity to collaborate.

Vote: Mark Belanger called for a Motion "To Adjourn"

Motion by Nat Coughlin, 2nd Josh Porter. Board of Directors vote to accept was unanimous.

Adjourned: 9:06