



Board Meeting Minutes

Desert Sky Montessori

Virtual Meeting

March 24, 2021

Sam Pierce called the meeting to order at 6:17pm.

Present: Sam Pierce, Cara Nowak, John Eskew, Jolene Dodge

Also Present: Jodie Borgia, Julia Sutter, Jessica Loukonen (until 6:48pm), Pascaline Ocana (6:27pm arrival)

BUSINESS

- A. Consent Agenda
 - a. Head Of School Report
 - b. Business Director Report
 - c. Approve February minutes

2021.03.24.01 John Eskew moves to approve the consent agenda. Sam Pierce seconds. Jolene Dodge abstains. The consent agenda is approved by a vote of 3 in favor and one abstention.

- B. Treasurer's Report
 - a. John Eskew: doing well; additional revenues coming in from different programs; expenses are down and net income is up from this point last year
 - b. Julia Sutter: we did receive 2 rounds of ESSR [Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief] funds, which are federal Covid relief funds for specific things; the third round of relief will probably be even more specific with its allocation parameters
 - c. Jodie Borgia: SIA (Student Investment Account) funds are also specific with what they can be spent on with the intent of improving 3rd grade reading levels; ESSR funds may hinge on whether we have a summer program this year or not and the program would need to be focused on helping children who may have fallen behind this year; we did receive a grant that will help to pay for our kindergartener assistants for the remainder of the year with the hope of helping these children with their letter sounds
- C. Expansion Update
 - a. Julia Sutter: we met with the hired planning team for the first time last week; Shelly Phillips is helping to put together a plan to let our community know what is happening; we are planning to reach out to a grant writer to help us with attempting to secure funds for this project; the drawings are finished for the proposed buildings and the landscaping for a new campus
- D. Head of School Discussion
 - a. Jodie Borgia: has sent an email to parents/guardians concerning the new Covid metrics

- i. Will not have to do any CDL unless there is a case of Covid in the school
- ii. 6 feet of distancing between students in cohorts has been reduced to 3 feet of distancing, unless eating
- iii. Teachers are still to remain 6 feet away from students to the best of their ability
- iv. The requirement of 35 square feet of space per student has been lifted
- v. Most likely all of the children will be on an extended 4 day/week program soon

E. Board Terms

- a. Sam Pierce: June will be his last month on the board; will be working with us to onboard new members until then
- b. Jolene Dodge: this is the last month of her term; intended to stay on the board as a non-parent member, but has had several conversations that are encouraging her to reexamine her relationship with DSM; will be taking a break from the board
- c. Cara Nowak: willing to renew her term and also to continue serving as secretary
- d. John Eskew: thinks an email inviting people from the community to come to the next board meeting would be a good idea

F. Audit Letter

- a. John Eskew: we faced similar challenges as we faced last year, dealing with proper documentation; Julia Sutter is now working with a service to improve documentation in QuickBooks and accounting and we will work with a CPA prior to the next audit so that we can be advised of any oversights

2021.03.24.02 Sam Pierce moves to renew Cara Nowak's board term and secretary term. John Eskew seconds. Jolene Dodge abstains. Cara Nowak's board term and secretary term is approved by a vote of 3 in favor and 1 abstention.

2021.03.24.03 Sam Pierce moves to approve the plan of action related to our audit. Jolene Dodge seconds. Jolene Dodge abstains. The plan of action related to our audit is approved by a vote of 3 in favor and 1 abstention.

2021.03.24.04 John Eskew moves we add time to Sam Pierce's presidential term. Jolene Dodge seconds. Jolene Dodge abstains. Time being added to Sam Pierce's presidential term is approved by a vote of 3 in favor and 1 abstention.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm.

Recorded by: Cara Nowak

Minutes approved at 4/21/2021 Board Meeting