

Urban Prairie Waldorf School

Board Meeting Minutes

May 08, 2014

Present were Sharla Stewart (SS), President; Peggy Lofgren (PL), Administrator; Ed Sindelar (ES), Facilities Chair; Heather Berhalter (HB), Vice President; Mary Cowen (MC), Committee on Board Development Chair; Michael Levine (ML); Jesus Ruiz-Velazco (JRV), Secretary; Ted Shieh (TS); Elisa Mangual (EM), Assistant Secretary; and David McClellan (DMc), Finance Chair, via telephone.

SS called the meeting to order introducing the agenda.

Q&A with Board candidates for the upcoming school year.

Candidates unable to attend were Brandy Masoncup and Jone Hellesoy. Attending were the following:

1. NaTasha DeNeal
2. Fabiola Saucedo-Stern
3. Peg Kern

Each spoke about her background. Members of the board asked the candidates questions, including:

- Why do you want to be involved?
- Have you been part of a governing body?
- Do you have any interest in participating in committees and why?

Each candidate answered in turn, and the Board discussed the evolving role of the Board in a newly founded school. The Board invited questions from candidates. Questions included:

- Is there a diversity committee?
- What characteristics are you looking for in a board member?

The Board discussed what diversity means and how the school has taken it up, as well as thoughts on moving forward. Characteristics cited included integrity, the ability to separate individual needs from school needs; a willingness to challenge and question, and to take up issues presented; engagement, including being present, listening with openness of mind and being able to understand issues at hand and to be able to voice opinions and advocate for a position. The Board discussed how it strives for consensus.

There being no further questions, SS moved to the next item on the agenda.

2014-15 Budget Review and Approval

PL presented, noting that no specific changes had been made since the budget was discussed at the last meeting. There were some questions, including whether the following were included:

- Professional development for Administrator (not at this point; on the wish list);
- AWSNA Conference funds (not at this point; wish list);
- Marketing – yes, some
- Faculty recruiting costs – yes
- Administrative support – yes, configuring staff to provide general office and program administrative support

2 items remain open for budgetary discussion:

- Medical insurance
- Accrual for bonus/sabbatical for teachers for their 8th year (currently included);

Anticipated enrollment was discussed.

A discussion ensued of how Finance will follow through on Wish List items. It was agreed that Finance and Administration would propose guiding principles for what types of items and cost levels would be at their discretion and what should come back to the Board.

PL proposed a vote, SS seconded. The motion carried with no objections.

Minutes

March and April meeting were approved.

Thereby SS concluded the public portion of the Board meeting.