

WESTINGHOUSE ARTS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 6:30pm

<https://westinghousearts-org.zoom.us/my/j4985722966> BoardMeeting

Meeting ID: 829 0442 0112

Passcode: 413522

Present:

Mr. William Pricener - Board President and Treasurer
Ms. Bernadette Gibson - Chair of Education Committee (Zoom)
Ms. Gloria Rayman - Chair of Development Committee
Mr. Greg Jakub - Chair of Nominating Committee
Dr. John Hisiro - Board Member (Zoom)
Dr. Donald Marinelli - Board Member (Zoom)
Mr. Dexter Hairston - Board Secretary (Zoom)
Mr. Gregory Beal - Executive Director
Dr. Kelly Lombard - WAA School Principal
Dr. Debra Lehew - WAA Director of Special Education

Mr. Alex Boyd - WAA School Operations Manager
Ms. Anna Very - WAA Dean of Students (Zoom)
Mr. Christopher Estadt - WAA Math Department Head (Zoom)

Guests:

Westinghouse Arts FTO Members attending via Zoom
Westinghouse Arts Faculty attending via Zoom
Westinghouse Arts Parents attending via Zoom
Members of the public via Zoom

The Meeting of the Board of Directors began at 6:33pm.

Roll Call of Board Members:

Mr. William Pricener welcomed all attending the meeting via Zoom and in person.

1. Public Comment

Westinghouse Arts Academy Board kindly requests that public comment be kept to 3 minutes per commenter, in order to respect the time of the attendees and the Board Members. Thank you.

There was no public comment at this time.

1. Statement by Board President - Mr. William Pricener

Mr. Pricener - I don't have anything except Item 2.

2. Informational Executive Session held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024

Mr. Pricener - We had an informational session for the board of directors. This was to bring the administration up to date on a few things going on with the school.

3. Executive Session

Mr. Pricener - The next thing here is an executive session. Is that correct?

Mr. Beal - We sent out an email earlier this week with a revision stating that Dr. Lombard and I wanted to have an executive session to discuss issues that have arisen.

The board moved into Executive Session at 6:35pm.

The Executive Session ended and the General Meeting resumed at 8:18pm.

4. Approval of Minutes from the March meeting VOTE

WP - Do I have a motion to accept the minutes?

MOTION: To approve and accept the minutes from the March 6 general meeting			
1st: Hisiro		2nd: Marinelli	
YEA: All	NAY: 0	ABSTAINING: 0	MOTION: Carried

5. Board Committee Reports

5.1. Nominating – Mayor Gregory Jakub – Discussion regarding a new board member

Mr. Jakub - We had the discussion about bringing on a new board member, Linda Kirk. I would like to gather a vote on it?

Mr. Pricener - She has been an educator in the past?

Mr. Jakub - Yes.

MOTION: To accept Linda Kirk as a new member of board of trustees			
1st: Jakub		2nd: Rayman	
YEA: All	NAY: 0	ABSTAINING: 0	MOTION: Carried

Mr Pricener - Tell her we expect her next month!

5.2. Development – Ms. Gloria Rayman – No current report

5.3. Education – Ms. Bernadette Gibson – No current report

5.4. Finance – Mr. William Pricener - No current report

5.4.1. Monthly financial report – Mr. Gregory Beal

Mr. Beal reviewed the statements for the bills for ratification for the general operating fund, cafeteria fund, segregated account, etc. He described the overview of all statements.

Mr. Pricener - We require copies of receipts of all expenses, correct? There are some that jump out. What is the Edgewood Country Club?

Mr. Beal - That is the deposit for the prom.

Mr. Pricener - Cintas?

Mr. Beal - Rugs and rags.

Mr. Pricener - Concord?

Mr. Alex Boyd - Rights for the musical.

Mr. Pricener - Comcast significantly went up from last month?

Mr. Beal - It's probably 2 months in one bill.

Mr. Pricener - Can you check that?

Mr. Beal - Yes.

Mr. Pricener - For your conference, was the hotel included in that registration?

Mr. Beal - No.

Mr. Pricener and Mr. Beal continued to review some of the items on the credit card statement.

Mr. Pricener - In the future, particularly for travel, I would like to see receipts.

MOTION: To approve receipt of financial statement from Mr. Beal			
1st: Rayman		2nd: Jakub	
YEA: All	NAY: 0	ABSTAINING: 0	MOTION: Carried

5..4.2. Ratification of contracts, bills, and payroll for February VOTE

MOTION: To ratify the contracts, bills, and payroll for February.			
1st: Rayman		2nd: Jakub	
YEA: All	NAY: 0	ABSTAINING: 0	MOTION: Carried

5..4.3. Present Singer Settlement VOTE

Mr. Matthew Racunas - You've all seen it in your packet, I'm not going to present on this, as it has been discussed in executive session.

MOTION: To approve Singer Settlement Agreement as presented.			
1st: Rayman		2nd: Hisiro	
YEA: All	NAY: 0	ABSTAINING: 0	MOTION: Carried

5..5.1. Present Job Description for Executive Director - Tabled due to time.

5..5.2. Present Job Description for Principal - Tabled due to time.

5..5.3. Restructuring - Tabled due to time.

6. Administrative Report

6..1. Report from the School Administrators – Mr. Gregory Beal and Dr. Kelly Lombard - Tabled due to time.

7. Academics/Instruction

7..1. Report from the Principal – Dr. Kelly Lombard

Mr. Pricener - Abbreviated?

Dr. Lombard - Abbreviated. We're working on preparations for graduation lists, end of term grade reporting, identifying summer credit recovery options because we're going to have to utilize programs outside of our school.

Mr. Pricener - Mckeesport has a credit recovery program.

Dr. Lombard - IU3 has one as well.

Mr. Pricener - One of our board members used to run that.

Dr. Lombard - I hope they're up and running this year. Our student services department is looking into all the options in the districts we serve so that whether it is in person or otherwise, they can attend. We're also looking at scheduling. We're finalizing the Program of Studies. We're getting scheduling documents out to the students that are going to be scheduling for next year, probably next week.

Mr. Pricener - I appreciate the abbreviation. Dr. Lehew?

7..1.1. Department Reports - Tabled due to time.

7..1.1.1. Report from Math Department - Tabled due to time.

7..1.1.2. Report from the Social Studies Department - Tabled due to time.

7..2. Report from the Director of Special Education and Student Services – Dr. Debra Lehew

Dr. Debra Lehew - Very quickly, we're at 330 students. Graduation is June 6th.

Mr. Pricener - June 6th is the birthday of the YMCA.

Dr. Lombard - Dr. Lehew is the chairperson for graduation ceremonies.

Mr. Pricener - If you need help, let us know. Seriously.

Mr. Jakub - You know we'll be there.

8. Student Discipline - Tabled due to time.

8..1. Report from the Dean of Students - Ms. Anna Very - Tabled due to time.

9. Parent/Family/Community Outreach

9..1. Report from the FTO

Mrs. Marian Sefcik - We have a meeting coming up on April 8th. Both in person and online. It will be brief so that Dr. Lombard can then address the parents concerning what they need to know about Title I and parent involvement. After that, our next thing will be concessions at the spring musical at the end of the month.

Mr. Pricener - You sound like you want to say something [to Dr. Lombard].

Dr. Lombard - When you get to student activities, I would like to say something.

10. Cafeteria/Food Service, Technology, Facilities, Buildings and Grounds, Security and Safety - Tabled due to time.

10..1. Report from the Executive Director – Mr. Gregory Beal - Tabled due to time.

11. Student Activities – No current report

12. School Operations/ Recruitment/Marketing

12..1. Report from the School Operations Manager – Mr. Alex Boyd

Mr. Pricener - Report on school operations?

Mr. Alex Boyd - Recruitment efforts are still going strong. We currently have 267 students enrolled or returning for next year. We have 42 new applicants for this month.

Ms. Rayman asked for a repeat of the numbers for student enrollment.

Mr. Boyd - We're still shooting for the high numbers. We're getting into crunch time for marketing efforts, and with everything happening, I'm concerned that we're not running ads.

Mr. Pricener - I thought we had 200 in the pipeline?

Mr. Boyd - We have 267 enrolled or returning.

Mr. Pricener - No no no. Applications?

Mr. Boyd - Yes. The thing that I want to get us to 100 plus students. We really need to be reaching a broader audience. We've relied on word of mouth to save as much money as we could up until this point. I think if we don't do anything in the immediate, we're going to miss out on our primetime for marketing.

Mr. Pricener - What would you propose?

Mr. Boyd - \$3,000-\$5,000 in ads is what we've done in the past. Anything less than that I don't know will be successful. We have a wide demographic we're trying to reach.

Mr. Pricener - I'm going to refer to my marketing expert.

Ms. Gloria Rayman - I can't say anything right now, we need to have a conversation. I'm curious, the 200 applications, how is that broken out?

Mr. Boyd - That's what we're still figuring out. Last month we had 41 students in the active application process. I don't have the final number from where we stand. Our recruitment coordinator had two sudden deaths in the family last month, but these are the most up to date numbers I have for you.

Before I move on, there are a lot of events coming up. Monday, async instruction. Lemonade Stand and Raising Cane's fundraiser tomorrow. Vocal Cabaret and Senior Showcase on Friday. We have our musical Spaghetti Dinner next Saturday, April 13th.

Mr. Pricener - I'd like to help with that.

Mr. Boyd - Awesome! All of our food has been catered and donated. We'd love to have your help with that. Chicago is that last weekend in April, Open Mic Night on April 11, this Saturday we have a radio spot at the Saturday Light Brigade for Chicago. Arts Fest we have decided to move to June 2.

13. Board Policies VOTE - Tabled due to time.

13..1. 0009, 4010, 4026 – Second Reading - Tabled due to time.

13..2. Statement of explanation regarding change in organization leadership - Tabled due to time.

13..3. 0000, 0002, 0003, 0004, 0005, 0006, 0006.1, 0007, 0008 - Tabled due to time.

14. Additional Items

Mr. Pricener - Any additional items? Please say no.

There were no additional items.

14. Adjournment

Mr. Jakub motioned to adjourn the general meeting.

Mr. Pricener ended the general meeting at 8:35pm.

An executive session was held at the conclusion of the general meeting.

Upcoming Events: Monthly Board Meeting – May 1, 2024 @ 6:30pm

Date

6/17/2024

Board Secretary

W. J. [Signature]
President