



September 4, 2014, 6:30 PM

5328 Brann Street, Oakland, CA 94619

Minutes from the Regular Meeting of the Urban Montessori Charter School Board of Directors

Call to Order was at 6:58 PM

Attendance: Faliliah Bilal, Daishi Harada, Nancy McAfee (acting secretary), Hae-Sin Kim Thomas (acting chair, treasurer)

Guests: David Castillo, 12 parents/members of the public

Presentations from the Floor:

- Ms. Hartman: Appreciates the board, Appreciates Mr. C, asking board to consider how important Montessori method is to the school; consideration of intensive training for administration; Questions—where did world peace flag go? Only American flag is outside.
- Ms. Wethan: Expresses appreciation—notes it was promoted on Facebook, Questions how can future events be broadcast to the community in general; encourages embracing meatless Mondays; Reports that classrooms are extremely warm (equity issues in providing fans?)
- Ms. Lampe: Fundraising meeting is planned. Will co-lead “annual campaign” with Dana Hull—goal of \$25,000 100 days from now. \$275,000 fundraising goal is in the budget; want to track participation of school committee; There are plans to have merchandise on the table @ Back to School night; Annual Gala to be another fundraiser
- Mr. Peale: Commends board for switching to school e-mail addresses
- Ms. Sabateur: Commends the board; stresses the importance of them shepherding the vision and thanks them for continuing to pursue it.

Review of Action/Discussion Items:

Ms. Thomas thanks all for the appreciation. Apologizes about the multiple agendas and clarifies that we can only discuss what is consistent on all—Thus eliminating items 5 and 6 (Finance and Fundraising Committee Report/Update and Head of School Report).

ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Approval of Minutes of 8/14/2014 Special Meeting

Public comment-- committee meetings should be subject to Brown Act. Jurisdiction is “statewide”—encouraged to seek clarification with legal counsel.; Questions regarding whether anyone is formally doing an acknowledgement of former board members.

Motion: Mr. Harada 2nd: Ms. Bilal

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Bilal-aye; Mr. Harada-aye; Ms. McAfee-aye; Ms. Thomas-aye

2. Approval of New Board Member Steven Bauer

Background/experience reiterated by Ms. Thomas: Finance background with Maverick Capital, Montessori parent, Finance committee chair.

Public comment-- need clarification of jurisdictional issue re: board members not residing in Alameda county. Ms. Thomas commits to looking into this.

Motion: Mr. Harada 2nd: Ms. McAfee

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Bilal-aye; Mr. Harada-aye; Ms. McAfee-aye; Ms. Thomas-aye

3. Discussion and Approval of Board Meeting Dates 2014-2015

Traditionally has been the 4th Wednesday of each month. Mr. Harada prefers not to have Thursday meetings. Mr. Castillo emphasizes that we must make it a practice to start and end on time. There should be a clearly labeled Board bulletin board to post. ***Motion is for the meetings to be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month starting in October.*** Start time will remain 6:30 PM.

Public comment: Wednesdays are minimum days/Could affect staff participation/ Could there be child care at board meetings?

Motion: Ms. Bilal 2nd: Mr. Harada

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Bilal-aye; Mr. Harada-aye; Ms. McAfee-aye; Ms. Thomas-aye

4. Discussion of Board Priorities

Charter school board of directors self assessment tool:

- Need to be a more formal board
- Have better board practices
- Massive board development—who/what do we need to have in place to accomplish our goals and continue to evolve.
- Reviewed Yu Ming Charter School Board committees draft document
- Mr. Harada: We could use more board members. Questions if we have a baseline bylaws of the board to review.
- Mr. Castillo: Teachers role: work with children; HOS role: help teacher's create space; be responsible for the facility and what's in it. Board's role: fundraising, facilities, implementation of charter
- Recruitment of young person as a board member, i.e.- a college student

- Ms. Thomas: Fundraising/finances; Montessori/Design Thinking/Arts integration; facilities; Aspirationally speaking: Fundraising and finance SHOULD be separated.
- Reaching out to staff
- Assess accountability of current board members
- Create an ad hoc advisory committee?
- Community members can be and are encouraged to be on board committees—bylaws specify 2 board members on each committee
- *Public comments*
Need clarity on terms of FAC board members (1 year term?)
Commending board, cautioning not to “spend all the money” on legal fees
Web site does not say we are looking for new board members
- **Next steps: will come prepared with self assessment—will help us to dictate who we need to recruit to board to accomplish goals. Possible Special Meeting?**

5. Approval of Board position—Secretary

Ms. McAfee nominated for the position of board secretary.

Motion: Ms. Bilal 2nd: Mr. Harada

Roll Call Vote: Ms. Bilal-aye; Mr. Harada-aye; Ms. McAfee-abstain; Ms. Thomas-aye

Meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM

Nancy McAfee, M.D.

9:15 – Meeting adjourned