

Community Innovation Partners/Dallas Community School Board Minutes

Date: April 19, 2018

Location: 788 Birch Street, Dallas, Oregon

Facilitator: Becki Gann, Acting President

Present:

Scott Burwash
Gene Henshaw
Holly Williamson

Public:

Ernie Fisher
Shanna Cotton
Wendy Sparks

Staff:

Bill Conlon
Dawn Adams
Cheri Reinke
Andrea Wilcoxon

1. Called to order at 7:00 pm
2. Review of Mission Statement and Vision Statement by Becki Gann
3. Public Comment

Ernie Fisher asked a question about the school property, and was referred to agenda item number 12 and told we will discuss later. What percentage of France is built on Water was asked by Ernie and Scott looked it up. Wendy Sparks asked about testing percentages and was told by Bill Conlon that we do not know that yet. We won't know for a little while.

Shanna Cotton shared that she loves Dallas Community School and that she is very invested in the school and it continuing to move forward with the program being the same. She is willing to get a movement going and is in support and willing to be a resource for lobbying for the school. She wants the board to know that she is here and wants to be vocal. She is sure there are other parents that would be willing to take this to the state level if needed.

Ernie spoke about the city shutting down the visitor center here in Dallas completely.

Gene brought up that the town is having a meeting tonight regarding this event. The city believes that they can do a better job than the visitor center. Gene is also concerned that no one will be able to run the schedule as well as the visitor center. General Discussion occurred around the issue.

4. Discussion and Action to Adopt Consent Agenda and Minutes

Bill Conlon discussed that he was asking to have an amendment to the board minutes from the February minutes. Bill suggest to the board that we have a revision of the minutes.

Becki motioned for the questionable paragraph be amended and Gene Henshaw seconded.

March Minutes were read through and Scott moved to approve the minutes, Bill suggested a change in the March minutes. To amend the minutes so that it says "revise" bylaws. Scott motioned to approve and Holly seconded.

5. PTO Report:

We met about yearbook. We are working on a few things and working on getting it together. We have a pretty good layout and we are super excited about getting our project together. On the Plant sale we made 400 dollars and we have a few more orders trickling in before it is all said and done. The plant sale plants are coming in after our next PTO meeting, they are going to be looking for a couple of volunteers to help disperse. Ernie said we are working towards bringing staff, families and students together and supporting the community. Next meeting is May 2st at 6 pm. The next yearbook committee meeting is May 1st

6. Directors Report:

1. Bill Conlon gave a brief review of the chart that was included in the letter that he gave the board that went over the statistics for our current enrollment, waitlist and new applications. He spoke of the Salem area being a high count.
2. Next was an ODE workgroup discussion. The Secretary of State conducted an audit on virtual schools and the Senate was worried about the 900 hours of instruction that is required. There were three meetings for these workgroups and Bill and Andrea attended two of the three at ODE. ODE made it very clear that these workshops were not for schools that are "homebased" but virtual only. A handout was given to all the board members showing ODE's examples of how they want to have attendance reported under the new "rules" for virtual. The first and second proposals were based on daily attendance and daily reporting. There will be a fourth meeting at ODE to work out the language that would be used for "virtual" schooling. This leaves us with a few options. Option A would be to secure legislative action and advocate for home based charter schools. Option B would be working toward a part virtual model in the future. Other charter schools are converting to a virtual program. Logo's has reached out and discussed getting a group of schools rallied to do legislative action. Scott asked if we are talking about teachers teaching on a camera and students watch from their computer. Bill said there are two different options for virtual school. He stated that he wasn't sure why ODE invited our schools there when they were so clear that this was only about "virtual" schools. We have until the school year 2020 to draft a plan for our goal to move forward. Primary goal would be to keep our model the way it is and to have a second plan in place just in case. Scott said this is an actionable topic and needs to be discussed at a later date.
3. Bill presented a possible model for next year's model where we would have a licensed teacher in the building at all times. It would spread the classes around for us to have classes for all grades on all four days. There would always be a guide available to teach, tutor or oversee what students are doing. Parents would be able to come and go more freely and take classes that are more pertinent to their students. We would leave some slots for tutorial help with a licensed teacher. Bill went over the school goals for next year.

Increasing student learning, Monitor changes with ODE, Work closely with DSD, develop a tutor program, work with licensed teachers, engage more parents in classroom instruction, etc. Bill wrote some thoughts that he felt this new goal set would benefit the school. Becki asked if there have been any thoughts on parents who want to maintain their home learning environment. Bill answered Becki by saying that if we have to change the model, the families will have to decide if they are willing to attend the school the way it is with the changes or if they want to pull them out and do homeschool for themselves. Bill has been working with the staff on the schedule and this is a point of discussion for the Board, Staff and parents as well. We have schools to compete with and a new one opening closer to Lebanon. They give out a 2000-dollar allotment. We can table this discussion until May board meeting to discuss more about the actions we need to do moving forward.

7. Staff Highlight:

Dawn Adams spoke about State testing. Her observation is that participation is up this year from last year. State testing is a tough process so we are making sure what we need is there, that it is secure and have staff there to Proctor. We have done better this year than last year but we have already been discussing things to do to make it run even more smoothly next year. We are not able to see scores except in the OAKS science test and so far we have a report on 5th grade OAKS we are at 75% of meeting or exceeding the standard. We are higher than the average. She also discussed the NCCE conference that the four guides attended in Seattle. It was very educational and the most valuable learning experience that Dawn has had since graduating college. In a nutshell, Technology was addressed in multiple areas of education. They learned all about how kids learn, how technology can help learning, how this generation is a technology generation. The conference was very informative about the different sources of information you can have online. They talked about how doodling helps you remember things when you are taking notes and other ways kids can absorb information. She also explained about Architecture in Schools program and how we have had Peter from Salem come and do architecture with the kids. She talked about the Olympic village that the students are building with the Architect in school. On May 23rd all the schools that participated will be doing a night of showing what they have done.

8. Board Recruitment:

The board discussed Ernie Fisher and how well of a fit he would be for the board. Becki offered EJ for Board election. Bill talked to EJ about his concern of him doing PTO and the Board. Ernie commented that his career allows him to do other things other than his job. He does travel a lot for his work and that may be a consideration for his election on the board. But he does have a lot of flexibility with his work schedule. Scott motioned to approve EJ for the board. Gene clarified that he would make most meetings. Becki seconded the motion and EJ was invited to the table.

9. By-Laws:

Bill gave the board the new By-Laws that had been previously approved for signatures.

10. Board Handbook/Policy Manual

Bill brought out the board handbook and since they did a read through previously on Section A and B and J was left out of the packet this time. Bill requested to hear of any changes that the board

found besides the wording on titles. The first reading was done last month of sections J, A and B Becki Gann made a motion to accept Option A and B and J and Holly seconded. All were in favor The remaining four sections were given to the board and Scott said they can just do a quick read through and then the board members can bring them home to read them more thorough. Scott made a motion that based on the recommendation of the policy committee that we adopt the policy as written and that we remember that this is a living document and have some policy review and have the committee continue to recirculate the policies that are most prominent and important and have policy committee review these policies. Holly seconded that motion and all were in favor.

11. Treasurer's report:

Scott stated that they had some over charges for a few small things but nothing that was too out of order on the financials.

12. Facilities:

Bill stated that the planning commission is very user friendly and seem to be very supportive of us moving to Walnut Plaza. The main concern that the city had was parking concerns but otherwise they seem to be pretty positive about all of this. It is looking quite favorable for us to be able to move into Walnut Plaza. Bill is close to a draft for the Board on May 15th so we can get approved ahead of time. Bill handed out a building schematic for the board to look over.

The only fee is 1000 for the conditional use permit and getting the paperwork in by May 15th We would be looking at occupancy if approved about a week after the committee meets so we would be able to get into the building mid-June. We will be looking for volunteers to help take care of getting the building prepared.

13. Dallas Area Chamber of Commerce:

Membership consideration for the Dallas area chamber of commerce: Gene Henshaw discussed the pros and cons of membership. Gene recommends that we table that for a month and discuss it next month. He favors us being part of the Chamber and joining it. He thinks it will be a very good thing, plus it will help us with community involvement or growth.

14. No new business.

15. Meeting adjourned at 8:39