

North Side Community School

Board Minutes

May 3, 2011 Meeting

Present:

Board Members: Grote T., Schoch, Shipley, Novik, Gibson, Francis

Staff: Woolsey, Grote, J., Miller

Meeting began at 5:00PM, chaired by Tom Grote.

1. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the prior meeting. The minutes were approved unanimously.
2. Anne Miller gave a review of the Derby Day Party, including an update of funds raised so far.
3. Anne Miller reported to the Board on our status of all open grant requests as well as any grants we expect to pursue in the near future.
4. Executive Director Grote gave a synopsis of the Federal Programs review that had been conducted the prior week. He stated that the meeting went pretty well. There were a couple of items that the examiner questioned, and we are waiting for a written explanation. They were minor in nature. ED Grote stated that the review produced no surprises and was pretty much what we expected.
5. The Board discussed the UMSL two-year review that was completed the prior week also. A written report has not yet been received. The review basically took the format of, "what are you doing, and what are you doing to improve?" The Board wondered if we should contact UMSL after we receive the written report, to ask how we should follow up. Executive Director Grote indicated he would contact the UMSL Charter liaison to find out the process. The Board felt a pro-active approach with UMSL is desired. Board members who attended the verbal 'debriefing' conducted by the examiners commented that they were generally pleased with what they heard.
6. T. Grote reminded the Board that the June meeting was important because certain Board officers would be leaving their positions in August, and there is no July meeting currently scheduled. He reminded members to do all they could to attend that meeting.
7. There was a brief discussion of the financial reports from the prior month. There were no questions.
8. There was an update on the new building rehab project. The sub-contracting (plumbing, electrician) will be done by African-American sub-contractors, fulfilling part of the goal of the school. Work tentatively scheduled to begin around the first of June.

9. The latest options regarding the long-term lease of the campus were discussed.
- Executive Director Grote reported that the owner of the property understands we absolutely have to have the matter settled by the end of this year.
 - ED Grote stated that NBA, the property owner, has a 'committee' investigating possible uses of the site and they are reporting to their Board at their June meeting. We should know more then. Francis discussed what we might want to include on the proposed Term Sheet. We need to know,
 - Does the Property meet our long-term needs?
 - Can it meet our long-term needs?
 - How much money will it cost to meet our long-term needs?
 - What alternatives are there?
 - Board Member T. Grote asks if there is a possibility to use the entire campus. ED Grote says probably not, but the consensus of the Board was that if there was ever any indication that such an option was on the table, we should pursue it. ED Grote is to call NBA Executive Director Mark Anderson to let him know we are interested in such an arrangement.
 - The Board decided to wait until after the NBA June meeting to offer a Term Sheet. In the interim, we will begin to investigate possible alternatives, such as SLPS schools coming onto the market.
 - According to Board Member Novik, 'we need to bring closure.'

10. Board Members Francis and Schoch reviewed the Procurement Policy. They felt that the long form OMB policy was onerous, and our own less formal policy would likely serve us better, if we determine we are even covered because of our revenue size. They will examine the situation a bit more closely to determine if any 'tweaking' of the policy is required. In the interim, ED Grote will check with DESE to see if they have any general policies that might play a role in this.

11. The Board discussed a disciplinary situation that had arisen. Certain questions remain unanswered and until we have more information, the matter could not be discussed in open session. ED Grote will keep the Board informed when appropriate.

12. At 6:25PM, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded and approved unanimously.