

**Hill View Montessori Charter School
Regular Board Meeting
Meeting Minutes
June 8, 2006**

Board Members Present:

Paul Accardi
Erik Ingersoll
David Kelley
Nancy London
Ed Maguire
Kelly Martin
John Michitson
Veronica O'Brien
Nandesh Palanisamy
Ross Povenmire
Peg Roberts, Ex-officio
Shaw Rosen

Board Members Not Present:

None

Other attendees:

Steve Boyle
Alison Caruso
Shobana Nandesh-Kumar
Nancy Parshley
Aimee Whitten

Meeting Began: 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes & Agenda

**Motion by Ross to accept last month's minutes and the meeting agenda.
Seconded by Erik.**

Suggested amendments were given.

Motion to accept the amended minutes.

All in favor.

None opposed.

Motion passed.

Public Comment

None

Nomination of New Board Member

**Motion to add the nomination of Ed Maguire to the agenda by Kelly.
Seconded by Nandesh.**

**All in favor.
None opposed.
Motion passed.**

Motion to nominate Ed Maguire to the BOT by Kelly. Seconded by Erik.

**All in favor.
None opposed.
Motion passed.**

HOPE Update

Alison Caruso gave an overview of the work of HOPE. She thanked Alice and Peg for their help this year.

Alison announced two new HOPE board members.

Alison, although moving 2 hours north, will remain on the board and focus on database building.

Alison also talked about the 'thank you' campaign being coordinated by both HOPE and the BOT PR/Development Committee.

The annual HOPE meeting is on Monday, June 26th. More information on the meeting will be sent to the BOT by Alison.

The HOPE board will be calling on the BOT members for specific support.

Executive Director Report

Recruiting is going well. Interviews have been conducted for LE. References are being checked and all will be Montessori certified by the beginning of next year. We have not yet found another UE teacher.

5 children will not be returning. Peg has not completed exit interviews yet. A BOT member asked if there is a standard questionnaire that is used. Peg answered that a form exists.

Peg gave an overview of the Continuous Learning Program. Twenty-one children have been invited. The school doesn't plan to ask others if some decline so that the children that attend can have more individualized attention.

A suggestion was made to provide the parents of children who are invited in the future with information on positive results realized with the children that attended.

Peg provided an update on the Coordinated Program Review and stated that she expects we'll need to take corrected action after the report comes out. English Language Learner (ELL) is one area and another is handicap accessibility. Also, mandatory training for teachers needs to be completed.

David announced that four children were able to come off of their special needs plans. Peg believes the Montessori approach to education is accountable for that. Nancy made an observation that maybe we could use this success as a best practice and share out success with others.

A question was asked about the allocation of the positions for the 5 children that left.

Another question was asked about our procedure for using Terra Nova and MCAS results to make necessary adjustments at the student level. Peg responded that teachers are using the data and making adjustments.

Retreat Update

June 9th and 10th. The facilitator, Liz O'Connor has designed some exercises for both days.

Ten parents, 10 staff members and 8 BOT members are attending.

Purpose of the retreat is to focus on the school's goals.

Nandesh recommended setting a timeline for the goals.

The parents attending understand they are representing all parents. The facilitator is taking survey results and putting them into categories for a starting off point.

BOT is the only group that can and will vote on the results.

Nominating Committee

Motion to accept the nominating committee's recommendation of officers as noted below by Erik. Seconded by Veronica.

**Shaw Rosen, chair
Kelly Martin, vice-chair
Paul Accardi – treasurer
Nandesh Palanisamy – clerk**

All in favor.

None opposed.

Motion to passed.

Confidentiality Policy

This is the first reading of the confidentiality policy. Since the policy was not provided as part of the package it was postponed to the next meeting.

Motion to postpone until next meeting by Shaw. Seconded by Ross.

All in favor.

None opposed.

Motion passed.

Public Participation

Motion to revise public participation policy by Nancy. Seconded by Kelly.

Kelly: Want to provide more time to for public to complete statements instead of exactly cutting it off at 2 min. Would like to open up for public comments during meeting.

David: Might make it difficult to handle the business.

Nancy: Proposed a compromise to provide 2 minutes for comments at the end of each agenda item.

Peg: Will provide material on practices from other schools.

Shaw: Would prefer to provide an opportunity to talk.

Paul: Would like to leave the time limit to the discretion of the chair.

Alison: Recommended that a copy of protocol about public speaking to be provided to all meeting participants at the meetings.

Ross: Would prefer an invitation to public comment at the end of each agenda item.

Erik & Veronica: Would like to communicate that the policy is being revised in response to feed back.

Amendment to the motion to send it to the Trustees committee for revision by Shaw. Seconded by Kelly

All in favor.

None opposed.

Motion passed.

Resignations

Erik: Thanked and recalled the experiences. Looking forward to participating more as a parent.

Nancy: Recalled the past experiences. Expressed confidence in the direction the school is taking for the future.

Committees/Task Forces

Site Task Force

Peg & Veronica updated every one on the progress on the modular unit. Mentioned that test boring will be performed prior to signing the contract. Plan will be posted on the website after revision.

Announcements

Steve Boyle distributed Community Partnership volunteer survey letter as well as Papa Gino's night to be held on June 15th.

Motion to adjourn by Ross. Seconded by Veronica.

All in favor.

None opposed.

Motion passed.

Motion to go into Executive Session by Veronica. Seconded by Paul.

The BOT discussed options for a pay raise for the Executive Director.

Motion to go out of executive session by Ross. Seconded by Veronica.

Motion by Shaw to provide a 3% pay increase for Peg effective July 1. Seconded by Nancy.

All in favor

None opposed

Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn by Ross. Seconded by Shaw.

All in favor.

Meeting adjourned: 9:28 p.m.