

RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

One Corliss Park

Providence, RI 02908

MEETING MINUTES

Date: September 9, 2008

Time: 6:00PM

Minutes recorded by: Nancy Sousa

Minutes approved on:

Interpreters: Carol Fay and Maureen McEntee

I. Call to Order

a. Chairperson Travis Zellner called the meeting of the RI School for the Deaf Board of Trustees to order at 6:09 PM in the RI School for the Deaf cafeteria.

II. Roll Call of Board of Trustees

a. In Attendance: Mary Bird, Richard Dickson, Carol Dorros, Suzanne Goldenberg, Neil Leahey, Mary Wambach, Travis Zellner

b. Excused: Kathleen Ellis

III. Adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1) and (2)

a. MOVED (Trustee DICKSON) AND SECONDED (Trustee GOLDENBERG): That the Board would adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to RIGL 42-46-5 (a)(1) and (2) at 6:10P. Approved unanimously.

b. MOVED (Trustee TRAVIS) AND SECONDED (Trustee WAMBACH): That the Board would return to Open Session at 7:48PM. Approved unanimously.

c. MOVED (Trustee CAROL) AND SECONDED (Trustee SUZANNE): That the Board would seal the minutes of Executive Session. Approved unanimously.

IV. Motions from Executive Session

a. NO VOTES TAKEN

V. Acceptance of Previous Meeting Minutes

a. July 15, 2008 (4pm)

i. MOVED (Trustee Zellner) AND SECONDED (Trustee Bird): That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of July 15, 2007 as submitted at the next meeting of the Board in October

b. July 15, 2008 (6pm)

i. MOVED (Trustee Zellner) AND SECONDED (Trustee Bird): That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of July 15, 2008 as submitted at the next meeting of the Board in October.

c. August 28, 2008

i. MOVED (Trustee Zellner) AND SECONDED (Trustee Bird): That the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of August 28, 2008 as submitted at the next meeting of the Board in October.

d. All motions re the previous minutes were tabled –

VI. Director's Report

a. Chairperson Zellner gave the floor to Director Dunsmore.

b. Director Dunsmore gave a Powerpoint presentation.

i. Recently met with Commissioner McWalters – conversations about strategic and school's plan- need to start working as a team – and how it is related to the board and how they are involved.

ii. Also discussed School Improvement Plan's Mission/Vision/Strategy and the development of goals and plans.

c. The Board commended Director Dunsmore for her work and thanked her for her impressive presentation.

d. Discussion took place regarding emergency policies and past practices.

i. Fire drills should be done on a more regular basis – signs and a written procedure in place.

e. Chairperson Zellner stated that more questions should be written down and brought to the next meeting.

f. Director Dunsmore offered ongoing guidance.

g. Sub-Committees

i. Building

1. Wayne Hannon spoke regarding the new building process.

a. The bid is out for construction.

2. September 23rd: Bid opening in school gym.

3. Proposals due October 17th – reviewed two weeks later. Decision by Thanksgiving.

4. School may have to move during construction – save \$500,000 if move for one school year – we are looking at what’s available. Need to consider staff and students – transportation. By next week we will know where we’re going.

VII. New Business

a. Election of Officers

i. Vice-Chairperson: volunteers – nominate & accept Mary Bird to vice chair –Mary Wambach elected as second vice chair.

ii. Secretary: Suzanne Goldberg volunteered for secretary.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M..