

MINUTES

Metropolitan Regional Career and Technical Center
325 Public Street, Providence, RI 02905
Board of Trustees Meeting
September 17, 2015

Present: Lela Morgan, Stan Goldstein, Keith Oliveira, Teny Gross, Kas DeCarvalho, Michelle Curreri

Also present: Dennis Littky, Nancy Diaz Bain, Lucas Lussier

8:15 AM meeting called to order by Stan Goldstein.

- Motion by Stan Goldstein and seconded by Keith Oliveira to approve the September 17th, 2015 minutes.
All those in favor: 6; opposed: 0; abstain: 0.

Discussion Regarding Status of the Budget:

End of last fiscal and full fiscal year budget review

- Reflected in the notes is the fact that the new energy efficient East Bay building utilities are 47% more efficient than the usual building of that size.
 - Dennis Littky asked that Lucas Lussier investigate where funding might be found to make the East Bay building into the net zero building that was originally planned. [Action item]
- The tipping point for the Met's funding and the Met's surplus funds will come in 2017.
 - Teny Gross suggested renaming the Asset Protection Reserve Account to something more indicative of its true nature, which is not a surplus at all. Suggested name: Formula Absorption Fund; Dennis agreed. [Action time]
- Dennis Littky and Lucas Lussier are working on a strategy for regaining a portion of the interest earned by the bank on Met accounts for anniversary funding. [Action Item]
- Dennis Littky suggested making the Ecenter an endowment fund.

Discussion/Vote to Accept Auditor's Report for the Year Ended June 30 2015:

- Presentation of the Auditor's Report by Certified Public Accounts from the offices of O'Connor & Drew P.C.
- Lucas Lussier requested terminology used in the report be changed from 'fiscal planning' to 'future planning'. Stan Goldstein suggested adding an asterisk and explaining in a footnote what it means in our terminology. (Action item)
- Dennis Littky asked Kas DeCarvalho to research regulations that govern meeting and scheduling requirements for RI school boards. (Action item)
- At 9:30 AM Motion by Stan Goldstein to convene executive session to vote on accepting the Auditor's Report and seconded by Lela Morgan.
 - All those in favor: 6; opposed: 0; abstain: 0.
- At 9:36 AM Motion by Stan Goldstein to conclude executive session/reconvene open session and seconded by Lela Morgan.

- All those in favor: 6 , opposed: 0; abstain: 0.
- Auditor's Report approved all those in favor: 6; opposed: 0; abstain: 0.

Discussion/vote to ratify release and settlement agreement with former non-tenured staff member:

- A settlement agreement was presented and unanimously approved by the board at the previous meeting in June. The agreement terminated the staff member but continued salary and benefits through December 2015.
- The language of the agreement covers any future claims and actions against the Met.
- The action of the board today is to ratify the agreement.
- Motion by Keith Oliveira to approve the final agreement and seconded by Lela Morgan. All those in favor: 6; opposed: 0; abstain: 0.

Update on CHARIHO Mediation:

- Mediation began yesterday, September 16, 2015 and lasted all day without resolution.
- CHARIHO wants to be notified by the Met anytime a student applies in order to meet with the student and family to assure them that CHARIHO can provide whatever they are looking for at the Met.
- Mediation will continue.

Commissioner's Visit Update; Staff Attendance Information:

- Dennis Littky reported that the Commissioner's visit was a good experience. He intends to follow up with the Commissioner regarding the CHARIHO situation. [Action item]
- Current data shows that the average Rhode Island teacher takes 10 or more absences per year. Met teacher's average 3.7.

Middle School Met Discussion:

- Item will be added to an upcoming agenda for discussion.

Met in the News:

- Celebration announcements for the Met's 20th Anniversary Celebration were distributed.
 - It will be an all day celebration on the Public St. campus, into the evening with buses to WaterFire, which the Met will be officially part of.

Change of Meeting Date:

- The Board of Trustees meeting scheduled for December 10th will be changed to Wednesday, December 2nd.

Student Speakers share their Met Experiences.

Meeting adjourned 10:20 AM.