

Approved Minutes
September 12, 2012
The Compass School Council
The Compass School
537 Old North Road
Kingston, RI

Call to Order

6 PM Elizabeth Allen calls the meeting to order

Roll Call of Members Present: Elizabeth Allen (EA), Dina Mandeville (DM), Hilary Downs-Fortune (HF), Michelle Clifford (MC), Cyrus Beasley (CB), Marisa Gallagher (MG), Drew Virbila (DV),

Absent: Rick Rhodes (RR)

Also Present: Allen Zipke – Director, See sign in sheet

Approval of minutes

MC Motions to approve the June 6, 2012, June 18, 2012 Minutes and August 9, 2012 minutes.

EA seconds the motion.

In favor: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion Passes

Committee Reports (Consent Agenda)

EA Motions to approve the consent agenda.

ME seconds the motion.

In favor: 7 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion Passes

Reports submitted:

Co-op Report 9/12/12

- solicited new parents at the Ice Cream Social
- spoke to the new parents and grandparents at the Celestial Café Night
- after-school soccer is running and is very popular
- trying to get information about buses for Gymnastics Club
- the first meeting is Wednesday, September 26th

will solicit parents to be leaders of events and after school programs

Treasurer/Development Committee Report 9/12/12

Treasurer Report

1. Bank Statements and financials in compliance with covenants.
2. New Business Manager hired

Development Committee update:

1. Celebration of Local Foods – Save the date November 3, 2012. Had first meeting with Committee regarding event and we have positive momentum. There are 10 table hosts confirmed, many auction items, and other logistics are confirmed.

2. Next on site Development Meeting is on Wed Oct 3rd at 6:30.
3. Capital Campaign – projected Town Hall Meeting in November/December time frame.

Director – Submitted separately

Site Report 9/12/12

- Driveway permit to be pulled this week, digging to start last week in Sept.
- Farmhouse construction drawings should be done soon, will be put out to bid
- Architect to begin gathering information to develop plans for the barn renovation and development of campus around barn/farmhouse site.

Policy Committee Report 9/12/2012

The “Policy Development Guidance,” a policy that describes the process for developing new policies and reviewing existing policies, was adopted by council on October 2, 2006. A revised version of this policy was sent out to the Compass School Community on July 6, 2012 for feedback and subsequent revisions. This draft policy has been open to public comment for 60 days.

The Compass School Community has submitted some feedback and proposed changes to this draft policy. Next step is to have council vote on these proposed changes.

Wellness – No Report Submitted

Requests from community for agenda items and comments

none

Rick Rhodes (RR) enters at 6:15pm

Transportation

Discussion of options.

John Rivers, location manager – First Student: South County Ride, discussed transportation options. John has developed bus routes for students with another Charter school taking them out of the statewide system and saving the school money. They were able to increase their ridership and reduce the cost.

What are we required by law to do?

It sounds like we are not required by law to make house to house stops. Making group stops reduces the cost of transportation.

John Rivers is willing to look at our current list of students that ride the bus and develop a plan with timing, map of the route and a total price. John is able to work with us on a year to year basis. If we are interested, he can give us a proposal in the upcoming weeks.

Statewide policy on bullying

Vote to adopt a statewide bullying policy, as regulated by the state.

HF motions to adopt the Statewide Policy on Bullying.

EA seconds

In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion Passes

Policy Development Guidance

*EA motions to table this policy until next meeting. Our attorney will be reviewing the policy.
MC seconds the motion.*

*In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0
Motion Passes*

Council goal-setting

Discussion of goals from retreat. EA developed a spreadsheet to track our progress towards goals. Council will review the spreadsheet and provide EA with feedback. This spreadsheet will be a working document.

Land Use Sub-committee:

CB gives update on progress - a permit is being pulled today for the driveway. CB will look into keeping our loam here on the property to reduce cost. The project will start on September 26 2012 and should take about a week.

*CB motions to allocate up to \$16,000 + engineering for the driveway and designate money from the capital funds.
DM Seconds*

*In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0
Motion Passes*

Taylor Duane proposal

Our Attorney Matt Plain presented the Taylor Duane Proposal to council. This proposal has been presented to Stephen Nardelli the Executive Director of the Rhode Island League of Charter Schools. Schools would pay a flat fee that would cover representation in a range of areas. The arrangement can be canceled or renegotiated at any point.

KH must look at our current budget to decide how to factor the cost into our current budget.

Matt Plain excuses himself while the council discussed the merits of the proposal.

*DM motions to approve the proposal to engage Taylor Duane on a retainer basis.
EA seconds the motion.*

*In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0
Motion Passes*

Business Manager, Kaleena Harrington

Kaleena would like to work with the council to make the budget and budget changes clear and transparent.

Council discussed items and information that would be needed from the business manager to effectively manage the school.

Requests from community for agenda items and comments

EA has received some feedback outside of council meetings and discusses providing more information to the community. AZ suggests adding more updates to the Director's report.

Executive Session as per , R.I.G.L. sec 42-46-5(a)(1); R.I.G.L. sec 42-46-5(a)(2)

EA motions to enter executive session.

HF seconds

Enter Executive Session at 7:41

Exit Executive Session at 8:36

While in executive session, council passed the following motion:

RR moves to seal the minutes of executive session.

EA seconds the motions.

In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion passes

EA motions to adjourn the meeting at 8:37

RR seconds the motion

In favor: 8 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0

Motion passes