

Thursday, December 12, 2019 Minutes

MEETING PLACE: 321 E. Third St., Bethlehem, PA 18015 Second Floor Conference Room 6:00pm

The President called the meeting to order at 6:08pm.

I. Pledge of Allegiance:

II. Moment of Silence:

III. Roll Call:

Present:

Mario Acerra

Paul Braden

John Filipos

Cheryl Mueller -arrived at 6:40pm

Rosemary Murdy-Haber

Len Perrett

Frank Shipman

Margaret Smith

Charles Stinner

Jasmin Woodson

Present from Administration:

Diane LaBelle, Executive Director & CEO

Carise Comstock, Principal

Lauren Sheldon, Assistant Principal

Cheryl Schurz, Director of Finance

IV. Recognition of Otto Ehram

President Acerra thanked Mr. Ehram for his many years of service to Charter Arts. President Acerra and Ms. LaBelle presented Mr. Ehram with a plaque of recognition.

V. Appointment of Norma Nunez-Ruch:

Motion: The Board of Directors appoints Norma Nunez-Ruch to the Board of Directors with a term expiring May 2021.

MM: Braden

SM: Smith

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-9, No-0, Abstentions-0

VI. Executive Session:

Motion: The Board of Directors moves to go into Executive Session at 6:19pm for Personnel, Legal, and Property discussion.

MM: Smith

SM: Murdy-Haber

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-0

VII. Open Session:

The Board of Directors returns to Open Session at 6:30pm.

Opening Remarks –

- Mr. Acerra, Board President
President Acerra thanked the Board for their service to the school and community and wished all Happy Holidays.
- Ms. Diane LaBelle, Executive Director
Ms. LaBelle reported that present enrollment is 631, our budget is 650 students. The Administration will be meeting with Directors and Department Heads about cutting the budget where appropriate.

The Administration is also working on Dual Enrollment with area colleges and looking forward to upcoming auditions in January and February.

Ms. LaBelle commented that Dr. Roy held a press conference last Thursday, December 5. At the press conference he made a blanket inappropriate statement about why families select charter schools. This is a targeted effort to change the law for cyber charter school funding. PCPCS has submitted a letter to Dr. Roy and the BASD Board

Administration

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requesting an apology to charter school students and their families. Charter Arts Board of Directors vehemently disagrees with Dr. Roy's comments.

Judge William Moran died on December 9, 2019. The Board will send a sympathy card to Mrs. Moran.

- Executive Director's Report

VII. Public Comments: (limited to 3 minutes per individual) None.

VIII. Acceptance of Consent Agenda Items:

- Acceptance of October 17, 2019 Meeting Minutes
- Principal's Report - Comstock
- Facility and Safety Report - Filchner
- Development Report - Markowski-Fernandez
- Grant Report - Theodore
- Public Relations Report - Gillette
- Technology Report - Levernier
- Outreach - Brown
- Safety - Rosania-Harvie

MM: Stinner

SM: Murdy-Haber

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-0

IX. Personnel Report

Approval of December 2019 Personnel Report

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves the December 2019 Personnel Report.

MM: Perrett

SM: Smith

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-0

Approval of Bomgardner Post-Doctoral Contract

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves Georgia Bomgardner's Post Doctorial Contract.

MM: Murdy-Haber

SM: Shipman

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-0

The following 4 motions combined into one vote.

Approval of Ms. LaBelle's Attendance at PA Coalition of Public Charter School Conference and 2019 Independent Charter School Symposium.

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves Ms. LaBelle to attend the Pa Coalition of Public Charter School Conference in Harrisburg, PA October 9-11, 2019 and the 2019 Independent Charter School Symposium in Albuquerque, NM, November 17-19, 2019.

Approval of Dr. Comstock's Attendance at PA Coalition of Public Charter School Conference

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves Dr. Comstock to attend the Pa Coalition of Public Charter School Conference in Harrisburg, PA October 9-11, 2019.

Approval of Jody Fowler and Kristen Bruck Attendance at NCTE Conference

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves Mrs. Fowler and Mrs. Bruck to attend the NCTE Conference in Baltimore, MD, November 22-26, 2019.

The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts provides a unique environment that fosters a creative, rigorous academic approach to learning and a development of talents in the arts. Built on passion, discipline and a commitment to excellence, this integrative educational experience inspires all student to believe in who they are and in what they can accomplish

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Approval of Lauren Sheldon Attendance at Family Involvement Conference

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves Ms. Sheldon to attend the Family Involvement Conference in Hershey, PA, October 27-30, 2019.

MM: Filipos

SM: Mueller

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

X.

Charter Arts Foundation

Foundation Report - Mr. Shipman

The Foundation Board met Monday, December 9. The Board is working on future events.

XI.

Old Business - None.

XII.

New Business

Finance Committee

Acceptance of October 2019 Financial Reports

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors accepts the October 2019 Financial Reports.

MM: Finance Committee

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Acceptance of Charter Arts 18-19 Audit and Form 990

Acceptance of Charter Arts Foundation 18-19 Audit and Form 990

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors accepts the Charter Arts 18-19 Audit and Form 990 and the Charter Arts Foundation 18-19 Audit and Form 990 with the adjustments of the dates on the Debt Schedule.

MM: Finance Committee

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-1 (Ruch did not review audits or Form 990s)

Approval of Miller Symphony Hall Contract.

Miller Symphony Hall

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, the Board of Directors approves the contract with Miller Symphony Hall for the June 2020 Graduation Ceremony.

MM: Filipos

SM: Smith

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Approval of Ververelli Phase 1 and Phase 2 contracts (ERU 3 and ERU 4)

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, the Board of Directors approves the contract with Ververelli.

MM: Smith

SM: Shipman

ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Development Committee

President Acerra requested Board Members consider serving on the Development Committee and work on fundraising and outreach programs with Mrs. Fernandez.

Board Development Committee

Rev. Braden reminded the Board that new Board Members are required to do an online webinar concerning training for Charter School Board members.

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Curriculum Committee

Approval of the New Student Club - Bakeology

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves the Bakeology Club.

MM: Perrett SM: Murdy-Haber ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Approval of the Student Dance Festival to Pittsburgh, PA, February 26 - March 1, 2020

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director and the Principal, the Board of Directors approves the Student Dance Festival to Pittsburgh, Pa, February 26 - March 1, 2020.

MM: Perrett SM: Murdy-Haber ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Presentation of SPP and Future Ready PA Index - Dr. Comstock

Mr. Perrett thanked Dr. Comstock for her work on this presentation.

Executive Committee:

Approval of Policies:

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, the Board of Directors approves the following policies:

Alumni Transcript Request Form - (Change Maiden Name to Other Name)

Policy 353

Policy 453

Policy 553

Policy 918

MM: Smith SM: Braden ACTION CARRIED: Yes-10, No-0, Abstentions-1 (Ruch did not review policies)

XIII. Public Comments: (limited to 3 minutes per individual) None.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 7:35pm: MM: Stinner SM: Mueller ACTION CARRIED: Yes-11, No-0, Abstentions-0

Next Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, February 13, 2020, 6pm, Conference Room, 2nd Floor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Schurz
Board Secretary