

December 12, 2018

GCA Board Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Ira Victor, Malcom McDowell, Lucia Mariani, Howard Banker, Richard Conley, Veronica DeJesus, Jaye fox

Meeting opened at 6:45.

Mr. Banker opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. He asked that the Board review the minutes of the November 2018 meeting. Upon motion made by Howard Banker and seconded by Veronica DeJesus the motion was unanimously approved.

New Building

Mr. Victor updated the Board on the construction of the new school building. The discussion focused primarily on the need to gain access to the building by June 30, 2019 and the need to identify storage sites if we cannot enter the building by then.

Mr. Conley explained that a proposed amendment to the 3rd floor was put off because proceeding could delay moving into the building. GCA will have the option to make the change after we move into the school. School will feature 35 classrooms for 25 classes, plus an art and music center.

Current building

Scanlon sent us a certified letter ensuring that we leave the premises by June 30th. GCA 's counsel is advising the school with regard to ongoing disputes with Scanlan regarding the poor condition of the building and excessive billing.

Board also agreed that counsel should draft a notice to Scanlan regarding the parameters under which potential tenants can be shown the premises during school hours.

School update

GCA has been notified that there have been changes in the number of hours required to service students. If students have 1 hour of service, instead of 45 minutes, the school may receive additional funds. After school has been restructured with one 3:30 – 5:30 Math instruction on Tuesday, with Thursday for ELA, and an enrichment day on Wednesday.

7th and 8th graders set up a carnival for the lower grades, and this was a great success, with the older children responsible for shepherding the younger ones through the events. This was a fun event, and also a great character building lesson for all concerned.

Art auction, holiday bake sale, and holiday boutiques were all held and were all successful.

Upcoming move

GCA is inventorying current (used) furniture to see what we can salvage so that we can selectively purchase what furniture is needed so that the new school can be furnished on time. This must be ordered by April.

Marketing the school was discussed. The school may change marketing vendors to increase outreach to potential staff as well as social media.

Health benefits: most staff do not go to the doctor, despite the fact that copays and benefits are much improved. Also, this is possibly related to absenteeism rates, which are too high. Mr. Victor will work with the administrative staff to make sure staff are aware of the benefits available to them.

Upon motion made by Mr. Banker and seconded by Mr. Fox the meeting was adjourned.