

I. Welcome

1. Call to order / Roll Call at 3:00 P.M., October 23, 2023, in the Multi-Purpose Building at Desert Star Community School

Jason Vargo – Present
Pat Jansen – Present
Kim Koistinen – Present
Kris Mattson – Present
Yvan Rochon – Present

Guests: Cheryl LeBlanc – Present
Dru Smith-Crain – Present

2. Approval of Agenda:

MOTION: Kim moved to approve the agenda as noted
SECOND: Yvan
VOTE: Unanimous

3. Meeting Opening: Jason pulled and read the Service virtues card.

II. Call to the Public

Jason asked if any members of the public wished to speak. No one volunteered to speak.

Board Business

Board Priorities

Jason summarized the three current Board priorities: succession, recruitment, and fund-raising. All agreed that the most progress has been made in the succession priority including documenting Board procedures, developing Board FAQs, and sharing the events/tasks by month calendar. Recruitment continues to be a challenge and Kim suggested that we establish a relationship with local colleges. The Board did not make progress in fund-raising, and all agreed to refocus our future effort on the development committee.

Board Nomination Cycle

The Board nomination cycle closed on October 16. We have only one applicant at this time and Cheryl will open the election on the Monday, October 30th. The election period will close on Monday, November 6th. Another community member has expressed an interest in the Board but has not yet formally applied.

Finance Report

Bank Balance

Yvan reported that the school has \$607,508 total across all accounts as of September 30, 2023.

First Quarter Financials

Kim distributed the 1st quarter financial reports under separate cover, and they are included by reference herein. All financials are reconciled but there are no budget to actual reports available at this time.

- MOTION:** Kim moved to approve the financial reports, for the period July, 2023 through September, 2023 as presented
- SECOND:** Yvan
- VOTE:** Unanimous

Finance Committee Update / USDA Update

Kim stated that most of the committee meeting was spent discussing concerns about the financial viability of the USDA project. The USDA has not yet responded to the Interim Loan Approval request, and we have not yet received the Gross Max Price from the architects. However, since there is very little financial risk in starting the permitting process, the committee recommended that we begin the process. It is likely to take 2 to three months.

- MOTION:** Kim moved to authorize Jennifer Young to begin the permitting process
- SECOND:** Pat
- VOTE:** Unanimous

Administration

Hiring

Cheryl requested that Yvan be approved to sign a resolution to authorize Yavapai County Education Services Agency to provide nursing services for 3 days in the current school year.

- MOTION:** Kim moved to authorize Yvan to sign the resolution with YCESA
- SECOND:** Pat
- VOTE:** Yvan and Kris abstained. Motion passed with 3 votes

Cheryl requested that Yvan be authorized to sign the contract to engage YCESA to provide nursing services for 3 days in the current calendar year.

- MOTION:** Kim moved to authorize Yvan to sign the contract with YCESA
- SECOND:** Pat
- VOTE:** Yvan and Kris abstained. Motion passed with 3 votes

Updates

Cheryl reported that current enrollment is 165.

The visit to Mortimer Farms went well and the buses returned safely on time. This activity may be more appropriate for the younger grades since there was very little activity available for older students.

Other Items

Current Events

The Board thanked Jason for his 11 years of service. The new Board will convene at the next meeting and election of Board officers will be held at that time.

Next Board meeting: Please note the next Board meeting has been rescheduled to Monday, November 20, 3:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Building at DSCS.

Motion to adjourn meeting by Yvan, seconded by Kim. Unanimous at 3:55 p.m.
Submitted by Pat Jansen, Secretary