

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, 9/17/19 9:30 AM

ATTENDEES:

Denise Liberi, Ayana Verdi, John Verdi, Sandra McMillin, Sara Russo

CALL TO ORDER: 9:35am

Quorum established.

BUDGET AND DONATIONS

Fiscal year started June 30, 2019

2019-2020 Budget

Donation from Dillen family: \$15,000 for unrestricted funds. \$2,000 has been used so far for a financial audit, will cost about \$6000 over the course of the year. Audit done by CPA Gallo and Associates (contact by 4 rivers foundation - agricultural education). Once audit is done it opens the school up to be able to apply for additional grants and be listed on Guidestar. Audit will also be needed for the mortgage/tax of new property 1861. Will ask for ideas from school family about what to spend the remaining money on and will vote. Some current ideas:

- Market garden infrastructure
 - Facilities updates: 1861 wall removal/soundproofing, 1851 and 1861 exterior painting
 - Art gallery (school bus version to make money for the school)
 - Mobile farm stand to sell produce
 - Trailer with pre-set kitchen to help with internships (high schoolers are doing internships throughout EGAD), entrepreneurial adventures like a food-truck including having an individual bank account
 - Keep this as a revenue source, make it accessible to the community e.g. on Saturday and Sunday
-
- 76 students are enrolled currently (not counting homeschool programs)
 - \$135,030 is the current total of annual scholarship income per year. If that number goes above \$250,000, a separate, costly audit is required = approx. 15 additional kids. We'd like to stay under that number.
 - Annual non-scholarship annual tuition income: \$286,320
 - All programs have a waitlist. NI and Journeys are looking at next school year for any additional enrollments. Upper school (8-11): 4 spots are open. Additional 4 kids would allow to bring in an additional teacher. (12-14): 3 open spots.
 - Attrition in general is 10%. Last year six students left the school. A goal for the school is to connect to all families to make the school a great experience for everyone.
 - Discussion about a potential development position that would be head of interacting with our donors. Formalizing etc. of donation system, grant writing, etc.

DREXEL UPDATE

NY trip: focusing on workshops in time management as an organizational leader

Chicago: focusing on budget meeting to understand what is a healthy budget

October - December: School visits (22 different schools) to research other models to see what you could implement etc.

Drexel is excited about having an urban farm school open up as a microschool within a larger school.

Drexel live interview: Giles Malone is interested in interviewing Ayana.

FACILITIES

1861

Walls need to be removed and soundproofing measures as well.

Rendering from Camila(not to scale) about the adventure garden. In order to realize the garden

- Petition the city to get extra parking (side board, civil engineer...)
- Each space in adventure garden could be would about \$5000 that needs to be raised - potential of naming rights. Dillen Greenhouse for example.
- liabilities , insurance, how to keep the space safe for visitors and for school

1851

Screen enclosure was built, wall torn down, electrical work

OTHER FACILITY UPDATES:

Maintaining curb appeal, weeds, grass, gardens etc. Greater expectation. Looking for contractors who can maintain grounds (code for mulch etc.)

PARENT REPRESENTATIVES/ COOPERATIVE LEADERSHIP

Co-op spirit, parent representatives have ability to bring concerns to the board themselves so we can discuss

INVITING BOARD MEMBERS

- We would like to have at least two more members
- Clarity of duties - fundraising, big picture oversight
- Every current board member please think of an additional potential member
- Special skills needed for the school

MEETING ADJOURNED

11:10am