

**FOLK ARTS-CULTURAL TREASURES CHARTER SCHOOL
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

1023 Callowhill Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123

Wednesday, April 20, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

Via Zoom Meeting (Zoom Invitation posted on website)

MINUTES

Present: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

Board Members Absent: Leana Cabral, Heather Davis-Jones, Kenzo Sung

Staff Present: David Brown, Pheng Lim, Ellen Somekawa

I. Call to Order: Selina Morales

II. Public Session

- Emailed comment from a teacher: If the teacher pay scale is not to be adjusted this year, could other forms of compensation be adjusted, for example the length of the work day?

III. Principal's Report Pheng Lim

- PSSAs start next week: April 26 to May 11
- Scholastic Book Fair 1035+ books sold
- 2022 FACTS 3-8 Student Survey 274 surveys
 - Staff are following up with 36 students based on responses
- 6-8 LBGQT+ Workshop
- May 2-6 Teacher Appreciation Week
- Guest speakers
 - Ellen Somekawa
- Black Heritage Day
 - Shared messages from two of our Board Members for our BHD assembly programs
 - Shared appreciation from a parent about how meaningful BHD was for their student

Executive Director's Report Ellen Somekawa

IV. Approval of the Minutes

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2022.

Moved: Neeta Patel

Seconded: Alan Phan

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan

Abstained: Xu Lin, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

V. Finance Committee Report

Treasurer's Report

Neeta Patel

We will look at approving our budget in our May meeting. There are a number of estimates for expenses that are still outstanding. We are in the process of negotiating down our health care premium. We will be filling in as many of these unknowns as we can. Our cash position is still strong. We moved \$600,000 from our operating accounts to our reserve accounts. No significant changes. Costs of consumables are rising due to inflation. ESSER III grant has been approved and funds should start flowing soon.

Finance Director Report

David Brown

Discussion:

- A 23% increase in health care premiums sounds exorbitant, but what is the normal size of the increase?
 - Usually the increase is 5-10%
 - How confident are we that we can reduce the size of the premium increase?
 - There is usually a back and forth negotiation that results in bringing down the initial quote.
 - If we can't negotiate down enough, then we start looking at the insurance package (what we can offer and the employees' contributions)
- Concerned that the reduction in enrollment has resulted in \$500,000 less income.
 - This year, we are using ESSER funds to cover that loss.
 - Budget for next year will not show this reduced enrollment size.
 - We didn't bring up enrollment this year due to our COVID mitigation efforts to maintain distancing.

2. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the March 31, 2022 Financial Statements.

Moved: Thierry Saintine

Seconded: Xu Lin

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

VI. Approval of the FACTS Health and Safety Plan

Due to the movement of Philadelphia County into the All Clear COVID Response Zone, changes to the Health and Safety Plan are in order.

3. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School has reviewed and approves the revised Health and Safety Plan (dated April 20, 2022).

Moved: Allaire Wohlgemuth

Seconded: Pooja Agarwal

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

VII. **Revision of the Records Retention Policy**

4. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the revision of the Records Retention Policy.

Moved: Thierry Saintine

Seconded: Alan Phan

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

VIII. **Executive Session**

- Considering the purchase or lease of real property.

IX. **Return to Public Session**

X. **Committee Reports**

- Development Committee

Alan Phan

Development Committee met. Discussed the capacity of the Admin Team. Continue working on the 5K and the spring appeal. Starting to work on seeking grants for the new building. Reviewing details for the 5K; updating sponsorship materials. Submitted the request for FDR Park; waiting for a confirmation. Working on cultivating and maintaining donor relationships and starting a newsletter.

The end of the fiscal year is June 30. If you haven't made your donation yet, please do.

- Nominations Committee

Selina/Heather

Nominations Committee continues to take recommendations of prospective Board members. Want to bring one or two new board members on this summer. Board chair will be having one on one check in meetings with members.

XI. **Other Action Items**

5. BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School authorizes the Executive Director to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation related to the development of 800 Vine Street.

Moved: Thierry Saintine

Seconded: Alan Phan

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth

XII. Adjournment

Moved to Adjourn: Thierry Saintine

Seconded: Neeta Patel

Voted Yes: Pooja Agarwal, Xu Lin, Selina Morales, Nancy Nguyen, Neeta Patel, Alan Phan, Thierry Saintine, Allaire Wohlgemuth