



Telephone: 314-664-7646

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Email Address: info@citygardenschool.org

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: September 5, 2018 at 6:30 pm **Location:** Conference Room

Board Members in attendance: Donna Smith | Anthony Beasley | David Desai-Ramirez | Sysco Deuanephenh | Liz Fathman
Shanika Harris | Terrence Harris | Andrea Nickrent | Claire Schell | Jarrod Sharp | Tony Tillman

Emeritus: Joel Achtenberg

Staff Members: Christie Huck | Nicole Evans | David Blank | Debra Fox | Faybra Hemphill | Bob Sweeny

Presenters/Guests: Theresa Fleck, Steve Sanchez

The mission of City Garden Montessori is to *redefine education* by developing the whole child in an excellent, inclusive, Montessori school; to *reimagine community* by creating spaces and systems that help to restore our collective humanity; and to *reinvigorate our world* by creating a culture in which individuals and communities thrive without disparities or barriers to success.

- I. Welcome and Call to Order – **Donna Smith, Chair**
- II. Introductions and Public Comment
- III. Approval of Agenda +*- **Accepted as written** **M-AB/2-LF**
- IV. Approval of Minutes from June 2018 Meeting +*- **Approved by vote** **M- SD/2-TH**
- V. Approval of Minutes from July 2018 Special Meeting +*- **Approved by vote** **M-SH/2-CS**
- VI. Leadership Reports

a. Board Chair Report – **Donna Smith**

b. Executive Director Report – **Christie Huck @**

- i. We are looking forward to our 10 Year Birthday Community Celebration tomorrow night. So far, over 300 people have RSVP'd. SLU's President, Dr. Fred Pestello, will be on hand and will speak to the gathering.
- ii. On Friday, City Garden is receiving a Proclamation from the City of St Louis in honor of our 10 years, and our charter renewal. CG has been invited and in addition to our leadership team, our 8th Grade students will be in the Board of Aldermen meeting room at City Hall to participate in the proceedings.
- iii. City Garden will also be the focus of a case study developed by the Century Foundation, who leads research regarding school integration and equity issues (among other things). TCF staff will spend four days onsite, September 17-21, observing in classrooms and interviewing teachers, students, parents and leaders.
- iv. City Garden is one of eight schools across the United States that has been selected by Chan Zuckerberg Initiative (CZI) to be the focus of a case study regarding whole child education. Representatives will spend a day at City Garden observing in classrooms and interviewing teachers, leaders and students. We will then be invited to be part of a cohort of schools to share and learn about best practices regarding whole child education. We will also become eligible for some funding opportunities.

c. Principal Report – **Nicole Evans @**

- i. We have decided to continue with our broad work of BIG M.A.C. and narrowing in on three overall goals: , Montessori, ABAR, and Climate/Culture/Compassionate Accountability
- ii. NWEA testing is underway, and results will be available for our next board meeting. It is our fervent hope that the state MAP testing results from our 2017-2018 school year will be ready by then as well.

Approved October 3, 2018



iii. In addition to our SLU outcomes, we have added school-wide goals for 2018-19:

- That all City Garden students will show one year or more of academic growth
- That the percentage of Black students scoring proficient or advanced on MAP and NWEA will be 60% in Language Arts and 40% in Math (this is in alignment with the SLU performance contract)
- That every student will engage in ABAR work and will exhibit a sense of agency, as developmentally appropriate

iv. The board requested that Dr. Evans

- Send the 2017 MAP results, for context
- Provide a tool that would assist the board in evaluating and understanding test results and their efficacy

VII. LBH Development Update – **Theresa Fleck**

The board reviewed the fundraising plan for this year.

- a. The Case Statement that will drive all of our fundraising activities is still in development
- b. “Charidy” Day, a crowd-funding initiative, was introduced
- c. This year’s goal is \$830,000

VIII. Committee Reports

a. Finance – **Sysco Deuanepenh**

- i. May 2018 Financials + *- **Approved by vote** **M-DDR/2-TT**
- ii. FYE 18 Financials +* - **Approved by vote** **M-DDR/2-TT**

A shout out to Liz Harris and the school administration for all of the work they have done to keep the Primary 1 and 2 classrooms filled to capacity

- iii. Motion for Reliance Bank Access +* - **Approved w/ spelling correction by vote** **M-LF/2-CS**

iv. Facilities Subcommittee Update

- Discussion about financing plan for building purchase
 - a. An exercise in fits and starts due to the complexity of the ownership structure
 - b. Christie and David Blank are spearheading efforts to finalize things, with the support of David D-R, Jarrod and the subcommittee
- Report on work with IFF - IFF is embarking on a facility feasibility study, which will outline potential facilities options as City Garden grows.

b. Discussion about adopting a Consent Agenda +

- i. The board agreed to try this
- ii. Financials will be approved independently, and not included on the consent agenda

IX. Approval of Strategic Plan +* - **Approved by vote** **M-SD/2-AB**

- a. We are working with Bellwether on an accountability and responsibility plan for the greenlighting process



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- b. Christie will create a mini greenlight process for the next 6-12 months and send it to everyone
 - c. It was recommended that we add a section of "Greenlighting" to deal with governance-- what does the legal and governance structure look like, and the board's capacity and makeup
 - d. Bellwether is working on a communications plan to help us role all this out
 - e. Kudos to the CGMS Leadership Team for putting this all together
- X. Discussion of 2018-19 Work Plan +
- a. Board members were asked to send any feedback on the work plan to Donna before the next meeting
 - b. Committee chairs were asked to review the priorities drafted and create work plans for their committees
- XI. Included in Board Packet as reading material
- a. Board Brief - September +
 - b. June meeting minutes from ABAR, Building and Grounds and Governance committees +
 - c. Revised Board Meetings and Event Schedule +
- XII. Upcoming Events and Initiatives
- 9/6 – 10 Year Community Celebration: 4:30 to 6:30 PM
 - 9/8 – Jr High Car Wash Fundraiser: 9:00 to 11:00 AM
 - 9/15 – Back to School BBQ at Tower Grove Park: 1:00 to 3:00 PM
 - 9/16 – Regional Identity Caucus (ABAR): 3:30 to 5:30 PM
 - 9/21 – ColorBrave: 5:30 to 7:00 PM
 - 9/28 – Grandfriend's Day: 9:00 to 11:30 AM
- XIII. Questions and Comments
- XIV. Adjournment *- at 8:30 PM

Visitors: None

Approved October 3, 2018



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Date and Time: July 13, 2018 at 8:00 AM via Zoom Teleconference <https://zoom.us/j/858444713>

Board Members in attendance: Anthony Beasley | Joel Achtenberg | Sysco Deuanepenh | Shanika Harris
Terrence Harris | Claire Schell | Donna Smith | Jarrod Sharp | Tony Tillman

Staff Members in attendance: Christie Huck | Nicole Evans | David Blank | Debra Fox | A. Faybra Hemphill | Bob Sweeny

- I. Welcome and Call to Order – **Donna Smith, Chair**
- II. Introductions and Public Comment
- III. Approval of Agenda + - Accepted with change in order of items
- IV. Approval of Food Service Proposal +* - **Approved by unanimous vote** **M-TT/2-JS**
- V. Discussion and Vote on Bellwether Proposal +* - **Approved by unanimous vote** **M-SH/2-AB**
 - o To design and implement the roadmap of the strategic plan
 - o The Opportunity Trust is supporting this phase; committing the money but with the understanding that we need to bring in donors to invest in this and our future growth
 - o Will be added to the existing budget as a restricted donation, with expenses expressed as a separate line item and reported out separately
 - o Governance Committee will be pulled in as well
- VI. Discussion and Vote on IFF Proposal +* - **Approved by unanimous vote** **M-SD/2-TH**
 - o In order to expand the number of students beginning in 2020, we need a comprehensive space plan to accommodate more students
 - o This will provide the plan and work with HKW to implement to increase the capacity of the existing facility
 - o The Opportunity Trust is supporting this as well as the design team
 - o They will also assist us in devising an approach for future school expansion
- VII. Questions and Comments
- VIII. Closed Session 610.021.2 - Motion to discuss contracts/property at 8:40 AM **M-SD/2-AB**
Roll Call vote: Anthony Beasley- Yea | Sysco Deuanepenh - Yea | Shanika Harris - Yea | Terrence Harris -Yea | Claire Schell - Yea
Donna Smith - Yea | Jarrod Sharp - Yea | Tony Tillman - Yea
- IX. Adjournment * at 8:50 AM

Visitors: