

Uwharrie Charter Academy
Board Meeting
July 20, 2017

Board Members Present:

Aaryn Slafky
Ashley Duggins
David McCrae

Julia Del Grande
Mac Whatley
Mark Hensley

Board Members Not Present:

Angela Kern
Stacy Griffin

Others Present:

Casey Harris

Heather Soja

Mac Whatley called the meeting to order at 6:45pm. David moved to adopt the treasure report and minutes from June. Ashley seconded. All in favor.

Heather informed the board that CFS was vague enough in their contract and she has been advised to make the final payment after withholding payment until she knew if they were in breach of contract. This final payment concludes their service fees.

Casey handed out a list of all new personnel, which is included in the new total employees at UCA that has reached 97. The high school is adding a full time Agriculture teacher, as well as an addition of a part time spanish teacher.

Casey and Heather attended the National Charter School conference, and was specifically part of the Rural & Independent Charter Schools. They attended and/or led discussions on leadership development, elementary grades, and project based learning. Heather also invited the board to attend a County Leadership Forum on Opioid Abuse & Impact that will be held on August 18th.

Casey & Heather invited the Board to come to different events during the first week when teachers come back. Reminders will follow.

Summer facility projects at the middle school are complete, which includes the addition of seven new rooms, storage room and a work room. At the high school, the new modular was being installed today and will be complete tomorrow. Casey also explained the plan for the carpool drop off and pick up line at the middle school.

KFI gave UCA the option to purchase the building on Lewallen Street. Heather confirmed that any new owner would have to honor our lease. After discussion, the board agreed that it has served our needs very well. There was no motion to purchase the KFI building. Mac asked Heather to request a copy of the lease from Scott Kauffman.

Heather reported that she and Stacy met about updating some points in our by laws. The school's by laws should match that of the by laws from the Secretary of State. Heater will correct the maximum number of board members from nine to eleven members. On behalf of the Governance Committee, Heather motioned for the board to accept these changes. Mark seconded and all were in favor.

Heather summarized some ideas from the Nominations Committee concerning community interest in future board member vacancies. They have suggested to accept board applications through a new email address specifically for that reason. Applications will be on the website in August and we should accept applications through the second week of January and hold interviews in February. Candidates will be presented to the full boarding February and voted on in March. This timeline should also be explained on the website. This process will be voted upon during the August board meeting.

Peter Rajtar is a former board member that moved to New York. The board did not receive an official resignation from Peter and has not been to a board meet since the beginning of the year. Mac moved that we officially decide that Peter is off of the board and Michael seconded. All were in favor.

Heather commented that all board members should have received a questionnaire from auditing procedures and asked the board to submit these documents in a timely manner.

Heather presented the board with a suggested drug policy for athletes, followed by discussion. She has listened to many repeated concerns about testing for athletes and the need of a drug test. The board collectively suggested that a committee needs to be formed with teachers, counselors, and a board member to discuss this policy further. Michael will be the board liaison. The board requested a progress report from this committee at the October board meeting.

Heather reported about new programs, which will include new teachers, at the high school. The agriculture department has developed into a true program/department. We will also have internship electives for the older students.

Heather presented the proposed budget for the 2017-18 school year. After review and questions, Mark moved to accept the proposed budget and David seconded. All in favor. Heather also presented proposed student fees. Transportation fees will be included in the fee list for those students who opt to ride the bus. After much discussion, David moved to accept the student fees as presented, Aaryn seconded. All in favor.

The due diligence portion of Phase II is still underway, including sewer line placement, environmental studies, traffic studies and surveys. The estimated groundbreaking continues to be set for mid-September.

Following an inquiry, Heather reported that 2016-17 graduation rate for UCA was 95.6%.

Aaryn motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mark seconded. All in favor. The meeting ended at 8:55pm.