

Kids Unlimited Academy, A Public Charter School

Board Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2017

7:30 AM – 8:15 AM

Board Members Present: Greg Aldridge, Pedro Cabrera (chair), Carol Fischer, Martha Ibarra, and Linda Evans, Michelle Blum Atkinson, Frank Phillips

Board Members Absent: Carolyn Hayes

Community Members Present: Michelle Blum

KU Staff Present: Tom Cole, Jani Hale, Martin Mares, and Cass Weiland

Next meeting: April 11, 2017

I. Review and Acceptance of the Minutes

Pedro Cabrera called the *meeting to order* and asked the board to review the minutes. **Carol Fischer** moved to **approve the minutes with changes**, **Linda Evans** seconded and it passed unanimously.

II. Board Chair Update

Pedro called for discussion on Request for Proposal and will solicit at least three other education entities for education services at KUA. The board will create a committee to interview organizations to fulfill education services. Tom Cole recommends that we solicit the charter organization. KU will be

Pedro Cabrera called the board to entertain a motion to **accept and adopt the contracting procedures**, it was moved to accept, then seconded by **Linda Evans** and it passes unanimously.

The next Board meeting was set for Tuesday May 16, 2017 at 7:30 AM.

III. School Update

Jani Hale reported that she received over 30 applications and is planning to hire four teachers.

A recent teacher training focused on restorative justice. Mrs. Hale is looking to make sure students are best prepared for state testing. A new testing protocol has been established this year to make students more comfortable and confident. Testing has been stretched out from three days to one month. Mrs. Hale was able to help Kids Unlimited bring on a full time special ed teacher.

Martin Mares reported that he is working with **Emily Freeman** on finding more enrichment instructors. Current instructors are teaching chess, dance, tae kwon do, and journalism. **Sister Mary Pat Naumes** is organizing teacher appreciation week during the first week of May.

IV. Business Update

The board reviewed the KUA preliminary budget. The final budget is expected in June and depends on the funding decisions being made by our legislators. Revenue is ambiguous. A bill in Oregon house could increase revenue, but lobbyists reported that it is up in the air whether it will pass. **Pedro Cabrera** asked the board to entertain a motion to **accept the preliminary budget**, it was moved by **Linda Evans**, then seconded by **Michelle Blum Atkinson** and passed unanimously.

V. Tom's update:

Tom Cole attended the Non-Profit Leadership Conference. A representative from **Miller Foundation** told Tom that KU could have asked for more money. **Matt Moya**, Equitable Education Portfolio Director from **Meyer Memorial Trust** (MMT), came to visit the campus and was blown away. He invited Tom to apply for grants at MMT.

Kids Unlimited is under construction and the meals are being prepared from a trailer. **Tom** reported the need to construct two other buildings in order to accommodate additional kids. Tom is working with City of Medford and wants the additional buildings to be built by Fall 2017. **Oregon Child Development Coalition** (OCDC) is very interested in moving in and partnering on preschool education, especially for siblings of current students.

La Clinica did not get the funding for their school based health expansion, but they will have space on campus to provide mental health and medical services.

Over spring break, **Purpose Built Communities (PBC)** presented to the **Medford City Council** and city leaders (view presentation link below). PBC offers free consultations, but they require a community "quarterback" who is neutral and serves to connect the partners with no bias toward one. this requires another non-profit creation, but could possibly be a role filled by local government. Tom hopes to have more help from the city for things like infrastructure of sidewalks, sewage, CDC charges that has cost KU hundreds of thousands of dollars.

A recent **Mail Tribune Editorial** article criticize the city of Medford for not addressing the blighted Beatty-Manzanita area (view editorial link below). Now that there is more awareness of this problem, Tom hopes the council will help more willing to move the project and infrastructure forward.

If Liberty Park is not addressed, it is a recipe for more of what is already happening. Drugs and crime are so normal, people don't call the police. But KU is literally 2 blocks from where the city wants to invest in downtown development.

Links:

Purpose Built Communities Presentation Slides:

<https://www.scribd.com/presentation/343568586/Purpose-Built-Communities>

Mail Tribune - Our View: Medford has questions to answer on blight

<http://www.mailtribune.com/news/20170405/our-view-medford-has-questions-to-answer-on-blight>