Minutes for Wednesday December 14, 2022 – 2pm

Topic: Board Meeting - Public

Zoom Meeting

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Frieda Harris, Marcy Moore. Executive Director Sylvia Wolff. Members of the public: Erin Price, Matt Price, Karen Clark, Mark Adams

The meeting was called to order at 2:01pm. A quorum was established.

Board action

* Approve November minutes – Meghan made a motion to approve the November meeting minutes. Marcy seconded and all voted in favor.

Board President/Director’s Update

* SIP updates – Hope to start archery next month.
* Epicenter/Performance Review Updates – Most recently uploaded the lottery policy and an image from the website showing what is posted regarding the lottery.
* PLC updates – Teachers have been working hard to meet needs. Have had more of a social-emotional need recently that has been well-addressed between teachers, Kerri Applebaum, and Leela Heyder.
* Volunteer updates – Not many in town right now. Substitute Teacher Sean Sonnenberg has been coming to help with math as often as he is available, which is has been a huge help in a class with five different levels of instruction.
* Professional Development – Everyone up to date with Calm Mind, Kind Hearts
* Past/Upcoming Events (breaks, events with parents, field trips, illumination) – Open houses in conjunction with Christmas in Corolla, which have each earned $100-150 in donations. Celebration on Friday ahead of holiday break. Field trip to the aquarium yesterday. Twenty parents attended. School paid for parents and programs. Student entrance was free. Three families (5 students) stayed behind.
* Lottery open and update – 4 or 5 kids on lottery list right now
* Cleaning update – Initial proposal from cleaner was agreed on as $175/mo but in fact was $175 per clean. She has agreed to lower her price and is now at same monthly price as last cleaner.
* Calm Minds Kind Hearts update – Contract is over at end of January. She will be missed!
* Merch update – Deposit going to printer today and order should be ready by January 1. Ordering 50% of total community order for t-shirts and hoodies of school + a few XXL to keep on hand as gifts or to sell at open houses.

Treasurer’s Report

As reported last month, the state revenue draw was very light in October, but was made up in November. State funds of more than $77k were received Nov. 28th which gets us back on the revenue budget for the year. Expenses ($47k) were slightly below the fiscal year-to-date average, so the YTD surplus increased significantly. Donations toward the new building increased and are expected to be higher in December as well with some major fundraising activity.

For the year, expenses in every major category have 50+% remaining vs. budget except those few items that are front end loaded (staff development, insurance, technology). We continue to be on track for another year operating in the black financially. At the end of December, we will be halfway through the fiscal year and I may be proposing some transfer of money to the new building account and perhaps some CDs now that rates have risen.

Account balances as of 12/11/22:

Operating Account $263,097.92

New Building Account: $785,253.68

Total: $1,048,351.80 (First time having over $1 million in assets in the bank).

 Committee Reports

* Curriculum Committee – All PDPs and evaluations are up-to-date but Susan is having an issue viewing Teacher Gill’s, even though access issues were resolved. Sylvia will follow up.
* Capital Campaign Committee Update – Annual appeal updates ($20,000; $15,000 donation, illumination about $150/nightly), $50K match

Facilities Committee –

**Facilities Committee** – Mike Strader (Quible), Jim Sherrer (Design Development), Bryan Daggett and Al Marzetti participated in a call with Jennie Turner (Currituck County Planning Dept.) to obtain the County’s current position on the Uniform Development Ordinance (UDO) parking requirements from the new school building and what could be done to resolve the issues necessary to get a permit to commence construction. As the issues with the septic system appear to have been resolved with Albemarle Heath, the biggest current stumbling block is the parking requirement. Under the UDO, 15 spaces are required and no more than 7 can be provided under a “shared parking arrangement” (e.g., at Corolla Chapel). Quible had submitted an “Alternative Parking Plan” that provided a rationale as to why only 8 spaces total should be required, but Jennie indicated that the UDO appeared to require that 15 were needed and that the balance needed to be provided for under a “Deferred Parking” agreement. Deferred Parking would still require that there be adequate space available on the premises to allow for the additional parking to be installed in the future. Al Marzetti argued that this would be a particularly harsh result as WEVS would be “checkmated” in its ability to construct the facility, particularly as the County is unable to provide educational opportunities in Corolla and, in reality, parking in Corolla Village has not really been an issue for WEVS. Jennie recognized that applying the UDO to WEVS was a little bit like “square peg in round hole” and said she would discuss with her colleagues in Planning as to whether there might be a solution. There was also a discussion as to whether WEVS could obtain lot coverage “credit” per the County Stormwater Manual if it used permeable pavers for the parking spaces. Additional lot coverage could be obtained if WEVS were to apply for conditional re-zoning as commercial, but Jennie understands the pragmatic difficulties of doing this within the Corolla Village HOA; additionally, this would delay the project by at least six months. In connection with Shared Parking, Bryan asked Jennie to discuss with her colleagues whether a paved sidewalk was absolutely necessary to be considered “safe” for pedestrians. Finally, Jennie agreed that the Corolla Village Wayfinding Plan contemplated a sidewalk on the west side of Corolla Village Road. Design Development to submit new plans to the County showing the “drop-off lane” on the east side of Corolla Village Road and crosswalks at the intersection of Schoolhouse Lane and Corolla Village Road. Separately, the Facilities Committee will meet in early January to finalize the list of builders who will be sent bid requests for the revised one-story school design.

* Grievance Committee – none

Public Comment – Matt Price spoke with three builders and shared architecture plans. Each expressed interest and thought the two bids received were out of line.

Meghan made a motion to adjourn. Susan seconded and all voted favor. The meeting was adjourned at 2:38pm.