



The American Dream School
Live the Dream

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Board Meeting Minutes

February 13, 2014

A meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") of The American Dream School (the "School") was held on February 13, 2014, at 6:12 p.m. via web teleconference (GoToMeeting) due to inclement weather.

The following members of the Board were present: Rick Levine, Luz Maria Rojas, Michael Weippert, Angelo Cabrera and Steve Zbaida. Angelo Cabrera joined the meeting at 6:24 p.m.

Melissa Melkonian and Jessica Coffrin-St. Julien were also present.

The Minutes

Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes (Motion #1)

Luz Maria Rojas moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting; Michael Weippert seconded the motion. The present Board members:

VOTED:

To approve the previous meeting's minutes. Angelo Cabrera was not present for this vote.

Approval of Financial Policies and Procedures (Motion #2)

Luz Maria Rojas moved to approve the financial policies and procedures manual; Michael Weippert seconded the motion. The present Board members:

VOTED:

To approve the policy. Angelo Cabrera was not present for this vote.

Facilities (Motion #3)

Michael Weippert reviewed available facilities options as alternatives for the co-located space, noting proposed lease terms, rent rates, and expected amount of buildout/renovation required. He noted that brokers he is working with are aware that the school would not have funds available for rent immediately. He noted the urgency of making a decision in order to advance negotiations. He posed two options: wait to see if the School's co-location is reversed at risk of taking planning year, or begin negotiating a private commercial lease. After discussion, Steve Zbaida moved that, should the co-location be reversed, the school take a planning year. Michael Weippert seconded the motion. The board:

VOTED:

To approve this plan of action.



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Fund for City of New York Loan Application (Motion #4)

Melissa Melkonian explained she was seeking a loan of approximately \$30,000 to cover pre-opening costs. Rick Levine moved to approve this loan application. Michael Weippert seconded the motion. The board:

VOTED:

Unanimously to approve the loan application.

Marketing/Advocacy Update (Motion #5)

Angelo Cabrera described efforts to reach out to local churches, and noted his colleagues at *El Diario de la Prensa* and *El Diario de México* are also working on articles describing the benefit of the school to the recent immigrant community in Mott Haven. Jessica Coffrin-St. Julien provided an update with respect to school and street outreach efforts. Melissa Melkonian noted she is working on developing an op/ed piece with the support of the Charter Center describing the contributions of the school to Mott Haven's immigrant community. Angelo Cabrera moved that Melissa move forward with drafting and seeking a publisher for the op/ed piece, and Steve Zbaida seconded the motion. The board moved:

VOTED:

To approve the motion with one dissenting vote (Rick Levine).

The meeting of the Board was adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Angelo Cabrera
Secretary