

Calgary Arts Academy Society

Board Minutes for the Regular meeting held at Calgary Arts Academy, Knob Hill Campus on March 15, 2011

Present: Todd Hirsch co-Chair
Pat Cavill co-Chair
Teri Basi Board Secretary
Rob Roach vice-Chair, Treasurer
Joyce Buzath School Council
Heather Campbell Director
John Gulak Director
Ken McNeill Director
Frankie Thomas Director
Al Wahlstrom Director

Staff: Dale Erickson Superintendent
Garry Schock Secretary-Treasurer
Josh Van Beers Principal

Regrets: none

Meeting Scribe: Garry Schock

1. Call to Order

A quorum was present so the meeting was called to order at 18:00 by Todd Hirsch.

2. Approval of Agenda – approved as circulated

3. School presentation – video presentation of students rehearsing their dance performance for their trip to China to participate in the first ever Beijing International Music Festival; the trip taking place April 16-23, 2011.

4. Consideration of Consent Agenda

- **MOTION:** that the Consent Agenda be filed
Moved by: Pat
Carried

5. Reports submitted at meeting

- a) Treasurer's Report – no report as February month end not complete, cash flow is healthy; filed.
- b) Arts Report – March 2011, on the website.
The Board congratulated the staff and students for a well planned and executed event.

Committee Reports

- c) Advocacy Committee (no report)
Committee Chair requested confirmation of committee members, looking for Terms of Reference to assist with direction and copies of past minutes.

It was also suggested that now is as good of time as ever for the committee to work with the "Friends of the Academy" list to begin planning for the next "Cinq-a-Sept" scheduled for October 2011.

- d) Facilities Committee - MOU is signed with the Stampede.
- e) Governance Committee (no report)
- f) Research Committee (no report)

6. Decision Items

- a) **April 6th meeting with AB. Ed. Minister**, scheduled to last for one hour to be held on the Stampede Grounds.

This is the meeting CAAS has been seeking since the original request to meet went out in a letter in September 2010 and because of the delay, there is now a great sense of urgency.

The meeting will be attended by Todd Hirsch and Dale Erickson for CAAS and Warren Connell representing the Stampede Board. Warren will use this opportunity to tie our joint initiative in with the Stampede's Youth Campus vision.

The main ask of the Minister at this meeting is for secured funding to assist in building a new school on the Youth Campus of the Stampede Grounds. The amount derived is equivalent to the current annual lease payments of which currently, we simply forward to the Calgary board of Education for the use of their two schools.

We will be suggesting to the Minister that annual lease payments may be more manageable for a government in a deficit position by treating the payments as mortgage payments which would allow the project to

proceed today, instead of waiting until the government can pay for it all in a lump sum fashion.

Our CAAS representatives will also be reiterating that we are still emphatic about permanence for Charter Schools.

As part of advocating for something, it was mentioned that a key item for any conversations we have with politicians and specifically for the Education Minister is for us to figure out; what's in it for them? We believe that one of our key strengths is that we manifest partnerships with Arts and Education groups which also serves a government well.

No motion.

b) Advocating for Charter Schools petition

Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA) had begun a petition in their organization soliciting parent involvement to advocate for Charter Schools on a number of issues including permanence and choice (the complete petition is on our Board website). The petition is to be submitted to the Education Minister.

FFCA is looking to other charter schools to mimic their initiative. It was decided that CAAS would not support the petition at this time as CAAS has delicate issues in front of the Minister right now, namely securing funding for the Stampede initiative and therefore; CAA wishes to keep the agenda unencumbered so that the Minister doesn't have anything else new to deal with from our School.

FFCA launched this petition without the consultation of other Charter Schools and CAAS believes this could have been better served had there been a meeting of the Charter Schools first to develop consensus and strategy.

Dale and Pat will bring this up at the March 23/11 meeting of Board Chairs and Superintendents.

No motion.

c) Approve staff travel to China this summer

The Board has no issues with staff working and representing CAA in China and fully gives their blessing.

This is a no cost item for travel and housing although we provide some Professional Development funding for the staff going.

The Board wondered if we have identified opportunities to “leverage” or “compliment” our involvement in China e.g. with the Government of Alberta or this is going to be more or less just an opportunity for staff and cultural exchange. The Board is looking for assistance to develop clarity in how this can be moved forward.

No motion.

7. Discussion Items – none

a) Contents of a lease agreement with Calgary Stampede – see 6a).

Items 7b) and 7c)

19:26 In-camera

- **MOTION:** that the Board go in-camera
Moved by: Heather
Carried

19:39 Out of Camera

d) Strategic guidelines to coordinate fundraising

A meeting is being scheduled with representatives of CAAS, School Council, CAA Foundation (CAAF) and Adult Choir to develop clarity around how we fundraise, whose responsibility for what etc. i.e. in essence, to create communication channels, coordinate fundraising events and identify who were fundraising from. June is the target date to have written communications developed.

Examples of overlap and when coordination is required:

- Raffles or 50/50 draws are gambling and only the School Council Society can access the proper licensing and then we can only spend the proceeds on items approved by Alberta Gaming.
- Who will issue charity receipts, CAAS or CAAF?

8. Other Information

a) Portables update – being moved to Knob Hill this evening.

9. Adjournment – 19:49

(To be APPROVED at the May 17, 2011 meeting)

Teri Basi, Board Secretary _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____

Todd Hirsch co-Chair _____ ORIGINAL SIGNED _____