

THE CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL FOR LAW AND SOCIAL JUSTICE



EXCELLENCE • CHARACTER • COURAGE • COMMITMENT

Minutes–Board of Trustees Meeting June 16, 2022, 6:00 p.m.

In-person: John Callahan, Denis O'Rourke, Sarah Fuentes, Socrates Solano, Charmone Adams

By Zoom Conferencing: Dan Sang, Christian Bannerman, Janine Azrilliant Jumaane Saunders, Rick Marsico, Linnet Tse

In-person-, Executive Director Richard Burke, Robin Sharpe, Dir. SPED.

Welcome and Call to Order- Mr. John Callahan welcomed and called the Meeting to Order at 6:05 PM, thanked everyone for attending,

Mr. Callahan asked if anyone had any questions about Consent. The consent agenda had no comments, and it was accepted.

Because Ms. Tse was at the meeting for a limited time, Mr. Callahan moved to the New Business items that required a vote.

Mr. Callahan then raised the requirements of the new Open Meeting Law, and there was a short discussion, after which he asked for a motion outlined in the Agenda: Mr. O'Rourke moved, and Mr. Solano seconded.

The Charter School for Law and Social Justice

WHEREAS, bypassing Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022 ("Chapter 56"), the New York State Legislature amended Section 103 of the Open Meetings Law; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 56 adds Section 103-a of the Open Meetings Law, permitting the [PUBLIC BODY] to authorize its members to attend meetings by videoconferencing under extraordinary circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(a) requires the [PUBLIC BODY] to adopt a resolution following a public hearing authorizing the limited use of videoconferencing under such circumstances; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2) allows for hybrid meetings by requiring "that a minimum number of members are present to fulfill the public body's quorum requirement in the same physical location or locations where the public can attend"; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(c) requires that members be physically present at any such meeting "unless such member is unable to be physically present at any such meeting location due to extraordinary circumstances . . . including disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, or any other significant or unexpected factor or event which precludes the member's physical attendance at such meeting"; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Section 103-a(2)(d), any members attending by videoconference must,



except during executive session, be "heard, seen and identified, while the meeting is being conducted, including but not limited to any motions, proposals, resolutions, and any other matter formally discussed or voted upon"; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(g) requires that any meeting where a member attends by videoconference be recorded, posted to the CHSLSJ webpage within five business days, and transcribed upon request; and

WHEREAS, Section 103-a(2)(h) requires that members of the public be permitted to attend and participate, if authorized, in any meeting by videoconference when a member attends by videoconference.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Charter School for Law & Social Justice authorizes its members who experience an extraordinary circumstance, as described above and further defined by any rules or written procedures later adopted, to attend meetings by videoconference: (i) as long as a quorum of the members attend in-person at one or more locations open to the public; (ii) as long as the member can be seen, heard, and identified while the open portion of the meeting is being conducted; and (iii) as otherwise permitted under Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Charter School shall create written procedures further governing its use of videoconferencing by its members in compliance with Chapter 56 of the Laws of 2022.

The resolution was agreed to.

Mr. Callahan then moved to the Resolution on Expansion that had been discussed prior, and there was a short discussion that this would also be addressed in our approval of the Renewal in August, which would incorporate the details the Board had been discussing over the past year: Mr. O'Rourke moved to accept the resolution, seconded by Ms. Fuentes:

The Charter High School for Law and Social Justice

Resolution on Expansion - June 2022

WHEREAS the Charter High School for Law and Social Justice (the "School") staff and Board of Trustees (the "Board") have been organizing and planning the expansion of the School into grades 6-8 in September 2023 and into elementary School at a later date; and

WHEREAS draft planning documents, including financial structure, facility plans, and curriculum concept have been presented to the Board; and

WHEREAS initial support has been indicated by representatives of SED and local community groups; and

WHEREAS the School's application for renewal is due in August of 2022; it is



HEREBY RESOLVED that:

The Board authorizes the incorporation of an application for expansion of the School as described above into our renewal application to be submitted in August of 2022; and

The final application for renewal and expansion as described above and any associated agreements that require Board approval will be subject to Board review and approval

The resolution was accepted.

He asked if there was any discussion on the 22-23 Budget that had been approved by the Finance Committee, and there were no questions, so he asked for a motion. Ms. Tse moved to accept the Budget for 22-23, seconded by Mr. Adams and **accepted by the Board.**

Mr. Callahan stated that this was the end of voting items and Mr. Callahan turned it over to Mr. Burke, who reviewed the Financials. He stated that the Finance Committee had met on June 14 and reviewed all the financials.

Financials-

Mr. Burke began reviewing the financials and shared his screen. Mr. Burke said our finances showed we had 133 days of cash (\$4,296,443). Mr. Burke stated that the projected deficit was the same as last month and much lower than the deficit approved in the Budget. Mr. Burke talked about the extra money spent on recruiting students and staff.

Executive Director Report- Mr. Burke reminded everyone about the graduation at BCC at 10:30 on 6/23/22. We have 87 graduates, 84 accepted into college, and two joining the military. They had \$989,000 in scholarships.

Mr. Burke reviewed the regents exams being held. He mentioned that they are concerned about the results but that all schools are in the same boat due to the learning loss due to the pandemic. Mr. Burke talked about the trouble with hiring for next year but that they had more TFA interviews coming up and would be hoping to hire from them.

Chairman Report -Mr. Callahan then discussed the outline of the lease for the Middle School building and progress moving forward with the building. Mr. Callahan talked about the presentation at Community Board 5 and how supportive they are and will be support of the Middle School. Mr. Burke spoke about the Community Board Treasurer's visit to the School and how supportive they were. Mr. Burke spoke of the need for



community support and how we are doing that. Assemblywoman Tapia had sent a letter of support for our Middle School.

Mr. Callahan then called for Committee Reports-

Finance-Mr. Callahan reported that we had discussed the Finance Committee earlier, and there was a meeting this past Tuesday.

Governance- Mr. Callahan said that the Governance would meet in July.

Academic Committee- Ms. Fuentes said the Academic Committee did not meet and would meet in June when they had more data.

Fundraising Committee-Mr. Callahan said that we would have begun thinking about Next year and that Rick Marsico had a discussion with the Deborah Archer, President of the National ACLU was available in April, 2023.

New Business: Mr. Callahan said they had covered and voted earlier on new business, so that was completed. Mr. Callahan stated there was no public comment and called for a motion to adjourn.

Mr. O'Rourke moved to adjourn, seconded by Ms. Fuentes, and approved at 7:45 PM.

Next Meeting: July 21. 2022, 6:00 PM.



John Callahan

7/14/22