

Approved Nov. 16, 2023

Fiddlehead Board minutes for Oct. 25, 2023

Meeting via Zoom only.

Meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM by the chair.

Bill explained that this meeting was called to complete items not finished at the Oct. 19, 2023 regular meeting of the Board.

Members Present: Ben Kramer, Susan Doughty, Bill Doughty

Staff Present: Jacinda Cotton-Castro, Executive Director

All those present introduced themselves.

There was no public comment since no members of the public were present.

- Director's report:
 - Jacinda reported that she just submitted a grant to the Maine Arts Commission for Fiddlehead Arts Enrichment (FAE).
 - It will support arts at Fiddlehead in afterschool enrichment, on some weekends, and in the summer.
 - Has a mission that flows from the overall Fiddlehead School mission.
 - Revisiting the days of Fiddlehead Center helps generate program and funding ideas.
 - The Board applauded her work on FAE
 - Artists in Residence were encouraged.
- Consider bylaws changes that allow remote voting by Board members.
 - Susan moved and Ben seconded to allow remote voting and reflect that in our bylaws
 - Discussion:

- Bill noted other issues with the bylaws in regard to terms and extensions are not on the table at the moment.
 - There is a need to balance the value of a physical connection to the community.
 - Possibly require some in-person meetings
 - A great idea that needs some boundaries on it.
 - We can review the draft Remote Voting policy.
 - Could encourage two in-person meetings per year
- Motion carried 3 to 0.
- Consider the 3 Year Financial Plan
 - Required by MCSC
 - Ben explained:
 - Year one is the current year
 - Next two years used assumptions of 3% increases in
 - Per pupil income
 - Salaries
 - Energy costs
 - Assumes no changes in positions except unfreezing two frozen TA positions.
 - There is a summary tab and details tab in the plan.
 - Year 1 bottom line is \$5,000
 - Year 2 is \$32,000
 - Year 3 is \$38,000
 - It was noted that the bottom line should account for a 2% enrollment decline or increase, which the plan does.
 - Income from enrichment programs splits the difference between optimistic estimates in the current budget and the reality we see.
 - Susan moved and Ben seconded approval of the plan
 - Motion carried 3 to 0.
 - Bill asked Jacinda to submit the approved plan to the MCSC.
- Board member Marie Reimensnyder joined the meeting at this point.
- Consider the Treasurer's Report for September that was not ready at the regular meeting.

- Ben reported that minor errors in the first three months of this fiscal year had been corrected.
- 25% into the year so should see 25% revenue and 25% expenses
- Got some grant funding to help with summer camp. We made about \$15,000 on summer programs.
- There is a new special events section to cover new fundraising activities.
- Noted that afterschool enrichment revenue is helping to offset any losses from summer camp.
- Susan moved and Ben seconded approval of the Sept.

Treasurer's Report

- Motion carried 4 to 0

- New Board member will be voted on at the November meeting
- Jacinda has another person interested in the Board as a parent member.
- She reports that after school enrichment classes can also generate revenue.
- Working on bringing non-Fiddlehead students into enrichment.
- Motion to adjourn by Marie, seconded by Ben
 - Motion carried 4 to 0.