

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Board Members present: Maura Fitzgerald, Jeanette Betancourt, Kalimah Ayele, Liz Fernandez, Melissa Chin, Olubunmi Emigli

Others present: Brian Ferguson, Mihwa Park, Douglas Ricketts, Richard Lee, Silvia Diaz-Ferrero, Nancy Vasquez, Kat Casey, Fabio Cuellar

The meeting was under the Open meetings law compliance .

The meeting began with greetings from everyone. Mr. Brian Ferguson then informed everyone that the meeting would be recorded.

CEO Report: Brian Ferguson

- Addressed the impact of ICE raids in New York City but assured everyone that OWNCS is safe and ICE will not be able to enter the building without permission.
- Notified everyone that a SUNY CSI will visit OWN 3 in February.
- Currently still in search for a director of Finance.

Finance Report: Maura Fitzgerald

- Discussed the clean audit but highlighted a budget deficit due to new rules on how to account for leases. Although there was a deficit on the balance sheet, OWNCS is in good shape in terms of the annual cash flow and operating budget.

Parent Association: OWN 1 Kat Casey

- Discussed community partnerships and received 10 boxes of bagels for national bagel day.
- Connected with other families during a half day play date at Kangas.
- Winter auction is at a local Tapas Bar on March 27th. Asked for support, donations and resources.

Parent Association: OWN 3 Nancy & Silvia

- OWN 3 PA Co Chairs were introduced to everyone.
- Informed everyone that they are starting from scratch so requests for any feedback and resources for the OWN 3 community.
- Currently working with the school to improve attendance for chronically absent students.

Meeting Adjourned

Emergency Board of Trustees Meeting

Friday, December 13, 2024

Board Members present: Maura Fitzgerald, Jeanette Betancourt, Liz Fernandez, Olubunmi Emigli, Kalimah Ayele, Melissa Chin

Others present: Brian Ferguson, Mihwa Park, Mark Crusante, Douglas Ricketts

The meeting was under the Open meetings law compliance .

Annual Review of Board Terms and Election of Trustees

The Board conducted its annual review of board terms, which are as follows:

Expiring 2024

Jeanette Betancourt

Kalimah Ayele

Expiring 2025

Melissa Chin

Expiring 2026

Liz Fernandez

Richard Bogle

Olubunmi Emigli

Maura Fitzgerald

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the Trustees:

RESOLVED to re-elect Jeanette Betancourt for a term ending in 2027; and

RESOLVED to re-elect Kalimah Ayele for a term ending in 2027.

Annual Election of Officers

As per OWN by-laws, officer positions are elected each year at the annual meeting.

Upon motions duly made, seconded and carried, the TRUSTEES:

RESOLVED to re-elect Jeanette Betancourt as PRESIDENT;

RESOLVED to re-elect Melissa Chin as VICE PRESIDENT;

RESOLVED to re-elect Maura Fitzgerald as SECRETARY;

RESOLVED to elect Olubunmi Emigli as Treasurer.

OWNCS Board of Trustees BYLAWS

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Trustees:

RESOLVED to approve to revise the OWNCS bylaws.

1. Adjust the required number of board members to 5-7 - No fewer than 5 and no more than 7 members.
2. Annual meeting to be changed from November to the first official meeting of the fiscal year.
3. Eliminate the requirement of having school parents to serve on the board.

Resolution on OWNCS 2 Middle School Expansion on the next page.

Meeting adjourned