

**Rudolf Steiner School of Ann Arbor – Minutes of the Board of Trustees
Wednesday, November 4, 2020**

Present: Elizabeth Head, Knut Hill, Daryl Honor, Anni Fox Maniglia, Mike McFall, Don Remboski, Heather Rindels, Tim Standke, Paul Trombley

Excused: Gary Banks, Jim McCauley

Others Present: Katrina Klaphake, Sian Owen-Cruise, Carolyn Raschke

Don Remboski called the Board of Trustees meeting to order at 5:41pm.

Agenda Review and Consent Agenda Approval

- A motion to approve the October 7 meeting minutes (with the additions of names) and consent agenda reports was made by Tim McCauley with support from Heather Rindels. There were no dissensions and the motion carried.

Development Update

- Katrina Klaphake updated the group on the Development Department's efforts for the 2020-21 school year. Our Winter Festival will be virtual this year on December 12. An in-person golf outing is planned for the spring and the Alumni Giving Day is also scheduled. Sponsorship opportunities are available for all events.
- The Winter Festival will include art activities, storytelling, a magic show, raffle and live drawing.
- Katrina thanked the Board for 100% giving to the Board Annual Fund Campaign.

Downtown Outreach Presentation

- Mike McFall provided this background on some recent Downtown Outreach ideas:
 - The idea of a downtown art gallery was formulated to feature the real strengths of the school and act as a living urban billboard.
 - The space could be used as an event center, art gallery, art class space, parent/child class space, and possibly acting as a High School economics class outlet.
- Estimated costs were briefly mentioned.

- At this point, this is an idea we are considering, we are just beginning this conversation. Board members are asked to think of questions and bring them and other feedback to a future meeting.

Covid-19 Response

- Sian Owen-Cruise updated the group on the school's ongoing efforts and the Continuing at School Plan that was shared with the community on October 30. We have received very positive feedback and have already implemented the Early Childhood nest change, new lab procedures, and are working on finalizing Grades class nuances.
- Sian Owen-Cruise and Knut Hill reminded the group that unless the County Health Department or State of Michigan requires us to move to remote learning, it is now
- Knut Hill appreciates the thorough plan and expressed his gratitude for the strong leadership and trust that Sian and the staff have instilled.

2021-22 Tuition Rate Discussion

- Carolyn Raschke reviewed projected future enrollment numbers and the Finance Committee's presentation on 2021-22 tuition and expense estimates.
- An error was identified in the total expenses from 2020-2021 in the presentation. Carolyn will adjust the document and send to Trustees on Thursday.
- The group discussed the projected deficit and the plan to transparently present various scenarios with the community during next week's State of the School meeting. We will ask for the community's input and interest in one-on-one affordable tuition discussions for the 2021-22 school year or if the community is more comfortable with a standard tuition increase.

Accreditation

- Sian Owen-Cruise informed the group that our Accreditation work has begun in earnest, with no major issues or major changes identified as of this point. The Board will be asked to review Accreditation items at future meetings.

State of the School

- Our State of the School meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 10 at 7pm via Zoom. Board members will be asked to participate.

New Business

- Knut Hill reminded the group that decision-making for moving to remote learning has changed from the State of Michigan. We are now responsible, and the Board will be involved.
- Sian clarified that a Board meeting is needed if we sense a community concern. Meetings will be called with a 24 to 48-hour warning.
- Carolyn will confirm contact information for all Trustees.

A motion to adjourn was made by Heather Rindels with support from Elizabeth Head. There were no dissensions and the motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:16pm.

2020-2021 Board Meetings

November 10 – State of the School, December 2, January 6, February 3,
March 3, April 14, May 5, June 2