

**Roots Public Charter School
15 Kennedy Street NW
Washington, DC 20011**

Board Meeting Minutes

February 20, 2020

1. Call to order

On 02/20/2020 at 6:36pm, Mama Gilda called to order the Roots PCS Board Meeting at 15 Kennedy St. NW, Washington, DC 20011.

2. Roll call (For a quorum) and Welcome

Mama Gilda conducted a roll call. The following (8) persons were present: Gilda Sherrod-Ali (Chair), Chirece Jones (Secretary, Parent, PAC President), Kim “Khadija” Bryant-Hughes (Teacher), Jesse Sharpe (Treasurer), Cameron Poles (Parent), Otto Wilson (Community), Gail “Ayodele” Gray (Teacher), Selena Spencer Lipscomb (Community). Non- Members: Rasheki Kuykendall (Vice- Principal), Roseanna Nwaogu (CFO), Bernida Thompson (Principal)

Quorum? Yes X

3. Opening Prayer: The meeting opened with prayer by Mama Gilda.

4. Review Minutes From Last Meeting (November 2019)

BOD reviewed minutes from last meeting, made corrections.

Pg. 1 –

- correct spelling of name in roll call, take out the letter i: Jesse Sharpe
- Spelling error under item 4--correct spelling to “Program”
- Where there were motions made, the notes should reflect the Board did vote, added “Motion was carried” to pages 2 and 3.

Baba Cameron motioned to accept November 21, 2019 Minutes as amended. Second By Baba Otto. Motion is carried. Mama Gilda approved and signed the Minutes as amended.

Mama Roseanna asks that we name an official Secretary for the Board. Secretary is responsible for keeping proxies, sending our reminder messages for Board meetings and keeping minutes. Mama Chirece volunteers. The motion is carried. Mama Chirece is given a binder containing proxies for each board member.

5. Old Business:

a.) Solar Energy Contract and RPCS

Mama Gilda confirms the solar energy contract is with 15 Kennedy St, LLC and not RPCS and that 15 Kennedy St, LLC has insurance to cover any damages or injuries caused by new panels, etc. Mama Bernida agrees that RPCS is not responsible for any parts of the new contract or consequences thereof and rent for RPCS will not be affected because of this contract. The board discusses potential benefits to the building space since utility costs should decrease.

b.) Fundraising: Roots Wall of Honor

Board is encouraged to purchase/sell bricks as a way to raise money for the school. The bricks start at \$100 (3 lines, 18 characters).

6. New Business and Announcements

a.) Report from CFO regarding budget

Financial report by Roseanna Nwaogu presented to BOD.

- Board discussed recent audit and findings.
- Dr. Annie B. Ashby Grant (\$30k) has been used for teacher/staff retreat, professional development, field trips, and to honor Dr. Ashby with a plaque, naming the school library after her, and putting a brick on the Roots Wall of Honor in her name. The board can suggest other ways the remaining money can or should be spent.

- Mama Roseanna discussed the importance of internal control/approval before purchases are made.
- Changes made to page 18 (typo) date should read *February* not January. Page 21 (spelling) *Seven* was corrected. Page 21 (spelling) ***SOAR Grant*** was corrected.
- Any ideas for spending ***SOAR Grant*** funds must be specified in the application. If there are any ideas from BOD, they should be submitted before August 2020.

Mama Ayo motioned to adopt the Financial Report as presented and amended. Baba Otto seconds motion. Motion was carried. Mama Gilda approved and signed and adopted the amended Financial Report for February 20, 2020.

b.) PAC Representative presents PAC initiatives for 2020

PAC wants the Board behind the revisioning of the Roots PCS Space to be updated and optimal for student learning at full capacity. Board discusses benefits and how to support initiative. BOD votes and agrees to put \$1000 stipend behind competition for design architecture and planning ideas including an estimation of cost. PAC will approach radio stations, local news stations, local universities, etc to increase visibility and find winning architectural design. Projected timeline: June 30th deadline for submissions. Winner will be announced in August.

c.) Discussion and vote on IEE

Mama Gilda informs the BOD that there is a situation involving a current student. The 3rd grader is 10 years old and has an IEP. The mother is asking RPCS for a **Letter Of Removal**. The **LOR** would be an admission of the school not competent in providing adequate academic support for this student. RPCS has supported the student adequately and finds one challenge being the students attendance. This issue has been discussed with the parent and the parent has been asked to ensure the child is present and on time to fully benefit from the resources and program.

Since the request for a LOR is not granted, the mother is asking for an Independent Educational Evaluation (**IEE**). The evaluation will cost the school \$2500. An evaluation was done last year for this student and the question posed is: does the BOD want to pay for this IEE or fight the request in court. Baba Otto asks what is in the best interest of the student and the BOD discusses the implication of paying for IEE versus going to court.

Baba Cameron motions in favor of paying for the student's **IEE**.

Baba Sharpe seconds the motion.

The motion is carried.

Mama Gilda, Chair, abstained from the vote and the body voted 6: "Yes" and 1: "No".

Within the next 24 hours, the chair will inform the students' attorney to move forward with choosing an IEE.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Mama Gilda at 8:30pm.

Minutes submitted by: Chirece Jones,RPCS BOD Secretary