

Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts Board Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2010 6:00 p.m. – 9 p.m.
LFCSA Office at 1553 Cassil Pl. Hollywood, CA

BOARD MEMBERS:

Present: Karin Newlin, George Abrams, Marta Alcumbrac, Gabrielle Samuels, Robert Greenberg Linda Johannesen, Marissa Chibas-Preston, Sharon Sutton

Absent: Michael Bishop, Verna Dauterive

Quorum? Yes.

Also Present: Judy Duzinski, Heather Newlin, Darcy Mellinger, Megan Howe, Susan Lee, Cyrice Griffith, Tish Hicks, Nancy Martorelli, Mary Ann Gallo

PROCEEDINGS:

- Marta Alcumbrac called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.
- Alcumbrac moves to approve the minutes from the March 24 Board meeting. George Abrams seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Alcumbrac moves to approve the minutes from the March 11 Board meeting. Marissa Chibas-Preston seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Alcumbrac moves to approve the minutes from the April 24 Board meeting. Sharon Sutton seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Karin Newlin asks that the subject of the lice policy be added to the agenda.
- Alcumbrac notes that Sutton would like to share a short video with the Board.
- Newlin opens a discussion of Board member term limits. She notes that several members' terms have expired. She touches on the conclusions of the CORE-GRASP group regarding Board composition and other aspects of the by-laws.
- Newlin adds that a couple of points made by LAUSD's site review in April had to do with Board meetings.
- Abrams moves to retroactively affirm Gabrielle Samuels' reelection for two terms from September 2007 through September 2011. Johannesen seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Abrams moves to retroactively affirm Michael Bishop's reelection from March 2009 through March 2011. Chibas-Preston seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Abrams moves to retroactively affirm Robert Greenberg's reelection for two terms from March 2008 through March 2012. Marta Alcumbrac seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Abrams moves to retroactively affirm Sharon Sutton's reelection for two terms from September 2006 through September 2010. Chibas-Preston seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Abrams moves to retroactively affirm Linda Johannesen's reelection for two terms from February 2007 through February 2011. Gabrielle Samuels seconds. Motion carries by general consent.
- Alcumbrac reiterates her recommendation that a sub-committee be formed to address the issues related to the by-laws. They would then look to Joyce at the charter office for her input.
- Abrams moves that the Board acknowledge all previous votes as valid which were made during the period when the terms of Board members Bishop, Johannesen,

Greenberg, Samuels and Sutton had not been formally renewed. Alcumbrac seconds. Motion carries by general consent.

- Alcumbrac nominates Chibas-Preston, Johannesen and Samuels as the sub-committee to review by-laws. Alcumbrac will review their conclusions before they are presented to the Board in July.
- Abrams asks about the terms for officers of the Board. A short discussion follows. Newlin notes that because Board officers were elected in July 2009 for twelve month terms, the Board will hold elections in July 2010.
- Newlin says that the Walton Family Foundation's 1.5% interest loan needs Board approval. She adds that ExED's contract is tied to the length of the loan which could be as long as five years.
- A short discussion follows about ExED. The approval of ExED's contract is moved to the June 17 Board meeting.
- Alcumbrac asks Newlin to report on fundraising efforts. Newlin says that \$410,000 has been deposited in the bank for Movin' In.
- Johannesen requests that a fundraising report be provided at each Board meeting.
- Samuels posits that in spite of its success, Big Night Out might be too great an expenditure of energy in relation to its returns, especially when compared to the Jogathon. They will discuss at Board retreat.
- Alcumbrac asks that Newlin please share the results of the LAUSD review with the Board when she receives the written report.
- Sutton addresses the Board about the changing dynamic of the school community as LFCSA moves to its new site and is joined by new families. She emphasizes the challenges of adjusting, especially for students who have thus far been learning in an Open Court environment. She shows a brief video about a San Jose charter school which illustrates how that school successfully addressed the challenge.
- Chibas-Preston touches on some of the efforts that are already being made.
- Discussion follows about ways to build community that embraces diversity and is empowered by arts & culture. Several parents, Board members and teachers resolve to meet and strategize about how to welcome new families and best help them to adapt.
- The Board retreat is scheduled for August 21.
- Abrams raises the issue of branding and renaming the school. Following a discussion, Abrams resolves to suspend the current efforts and invite Karen Barranco to address the Board at a later date. All Board members will watch Barranco's presentation and the topic will be incorporated into the August 21 retreat.
- Newlin talks about the current lice situation and the official LFCSA policy of no visible nits or eggs.
- There is a public comment from Tish Hicks about the timeline to implement the Board retreat's determinations as regards welcoming new families in the Fall.
- Alcumbrac moves to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mary Ann Gallo.