

**Los Feliz Charter School for the Arts Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 31, 2010 2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**  
**ExED Office 11858 LaGrange Ave, 2nd Floor L.A., CA 90025**  
**APPROVED**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Present: Karin Newlin, Marta Alcumbrac, Gabrielle Samuels (via phone), Robert Greenberg (via phone), Marissa Chibas-Preston, Sharon Sutton Michael Bishop, George Abrams (via phone)

Absent: Sharon Sutton

Quorum? Yes.

Also Present: Joe Meza, Mary Ann Gallo

**PROCEEDINGS:**

- Marta Alcumbrac called the meeting to order at 2:25 p.m.
- Because the minutes from the June 17 Board Meeting were not available, Alcumbrac postpones their approval to the next Board Meeting.
- Michael Bishop moves to approve ExED's contract. Alcumbrac seconds. A brief discussion follows. George Abrams asks about moving year-to-year after paying off the Walton Family Foundation loan. Samuels raises subject of \$1,200 charge for the portal.
- Alcumbrac moves to approve ExED's contract with the understanding that it will be amended to include a line item that after the loan is repaid, the contract will go month-to-month. Ayes via roll call: George Abrams, Bob Greenberg, Gabrielle Samuels, Marta Alcumbrac, Marissa Chibas-Preston, Michael Bishop. Motion carries.
- Greenberg asks to discuss the situation regarding the number of free and reduced lunch students not meeting the goal of 40%. Discussion follows.
- Newlin says that of the enrolled students for the upcoming year 27% qualify for free and reduced lunch. All students who qualified for the program were offered enrollment. She adds that the Kindergarten class is at 40%, noting that it is always harder to recruit for the upper grades.
- Chibas-Preston asks about the loan, which is dependent on 40% free and reduced lunch student enrollment. Michael Bishop says he and Meza have discussed LFCSA's demonstrated effort being shown to the Walton Family Foundation. He adds that the push should still be made.
- The possibility of subsidized afterschool care is discussed. George Abrams mentions E3's progress in that area. Chibas-Preston wonders if families who withdrew enrollment b/c of poor afterschool care options can be contacted. Samuels asks if LFCSA will have anything to offer them if they are contacted. Alcumbrac says that a PTA Board member is exploring those options such as through the Glassell Park Community Center.
- Alcumbrac moves to enter move into the \$500,000 loan agreement to be managed by ExED. Chibas-Preston seconds.
- Bishop points to section 7.1.9 wherein Karin Newlin is referred to as "Borrower's Executive Director." If another serves in her capacity in the future, it would have to be someone whom ExED considers reasonably acceptable.

- Samuels suggests changing language to “Principal.” Bishop concurs, noting that that is her title per her contract.
- Bishop moves to authorize moving into the \$500,000 loan agreement and execution thereof pending change in language that is satisfactory to both parties. Alcumbrac seconds. Ayes via roll call: Abrams, Samuels, Greenberg, Alcumbrac, Chibas-Preston, Bishop. Motion carries.
- Newlin gives an update of the progress at Media Center. She notes Ray Franco’s strong commitment and generous contributions out of his own pocket. She says the building is coming along beautifully and will be ready to open on schedule.
- Alcumbrac echoes Newlin’s appreciation of Franco’s generosity. Bishop expresses gratitude but asks that contributions be properly documented for accounting.
- Newlin gives a brief staff update. Eight new teachers have been hired. She and Carolyn Gee are developing the teacher’s institute for the end of summer. She adds that she and Chibas-Preston have found four candidates for the arts specialists.
- Alcumbrac raises the subject of a new candidate for the Board, Michael John Garces. Suggested by Chibas-Preston, he currently is the Artistic Director for the Cornerstone Theater. He understands how non-profits function and he is familiar with the Glassell Park community. He is ready to join and eager to attend the Board retreat in August.
- Alcumbrac moves that Michael John Garces be elected to the LFCSA Board of Directors. Chibas-Preston seconds. Ayes via roll call: Chibas-Preston, Alcumbrac, Samuels, Abrams, Bishop, Greenberg. Motion carries.
- Greenberg leaves the meeting at 3:20 p.m.
- Meza notes that all other funding, such as the landlord’s \$235,000 TI funding, needs to be in place before ExED will release the \$500,000 from the loan.
- Alcumbrac opens discussion of the 2010/2011 budget as presented by Meza.
- Bishop notes the areas that need to be addressed are class size, hiring of an Executive Director, fundraising, reserve/cash flow and the need to make cuts.
- Meza points to a potential cash flow problem in May of 2011.
- Meza and Newlin believe that selling more receivables for the coming year is not a good option.
- Various scenarios for addressing the budget issues are proposed and discussed. These include increasing class size, making adjustments to upper administration, restructuring Special Education services, applying for Title 1 funding through the Local Education Agency, increased fundraising and how to keep the arts education excellent while cutting costs.
- There is a discussion of how to increase the ADA.
- The hiring of an Executive Director is discussed.
- Alcumbrac moves to adjourn at 5:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Mary Ann Gallo.