

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**June 16, 2014 – 300 W. 9th Street, Wilmington, DE**

**Minutes**

*Directors Present: John Pierson, Hal Real, Henry Smith, Felicia Wenell*

*Directors Absent: Gerald Escovitz*

*Others Present: Kelly Davenport, Bill Porter, Paul Ramirez, Melanie Reiser, Ann Pagano, Latisha Bracy*

*The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. The vice-president noted the presence of a quorum, and the meeting commenced.*

- I. **Approval of Minutes** – Hal Real motioned that the minutes of the April 24, 2014 meeting be approved as read, and Henry Smith seconded this motion. The Board was polled, and the motion passed unanimously.
- II. **DE Charter School Law Review** – Melanie provided a brief overview of the admissions requirements as set forth in the Delaware charter school law and in Freire’s policy (as incorporated in the charter application). Included discussion of admissions preferences, the student and family pledge, and the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for 80% enrollment.
- III. **FCS Wilmington Update** – Bill Porter provided an update on Freire Charter School Wilmington including possible need for temporary office space and the school’s facility acquisition progress (including that a space planner and architects were putting together drawings for a new site). Bill updated the Board on various admissions and marketing efforts and indicated that prioritized summer work will include fundraising, identifying a building, and recruiting students.
- IV. **Adoption of Non-Discrimination Policy** – Melanie Reiser reviewed the Non-Discrimination Policy with the Board, which is a requirement of our 501c3 application. Felicia Wenell motioned that the Board adopt the Non-Discrimination Policy, and Hal Real seconded that motion. The Board was polled, and the motion passed unanimously.
- V. **Review of Financials** – Melanie Reiser reviewed the 2013-14 and 2014-15 start-up financials with the Board of Directors including the source of funds and use of funds. It was noted that between the Longwood Foundation match and the underwriting for Paul and Felicia’s positions, we need to raise \$450K.
- VI. **Board of Directors Recruitment** – Kelly introduced Latisha Bracy to the Board as a prospective new Board member. Her résumé was provided to all Board members.

- VII. Fundraising Update** – Ann Pagano updated the Board on fundraising, indicating that \$147K of the \$300K in matching funding requirement for the Longwood Foundation had been raised. A robust conversation followed regarding fundraising and community outreaching, including a need to connect with the African American community and schools that terminate at 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The need for framing our story for the purpose of raising funds was discussed.
- VIII. Election of Latisha Bracy** – Latisha Bracy excused herself from the Board meeting. Henry Smith made a motion to elect Latisha Bracy as a member of the Board of Directors, and Felicia Wenell seconded this motion. The Board was polled and the motion was approved unanimously.
- IX. Adoption of meeting schedule** – The Board decided to meet on the second Monday of each month, with the next meeting set for July 14, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.
- X. Adjournment** – The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.