



Hawthorn Board of Trustees
Tuesday, March 10, 2015
Washington University Life Science Building Room 311

Board Members Present: Rachana Creeth, Nikki Doughty (prepared minutes), Edes Gilbert (by phone), Kathryn Love, Anne Miller, Tim Rowbottom, John Ross, & Mary Stillman (Chair)

Washington University Sponsor: Vickie May

Staff: Benay Hicks, Robyn Wiens

Meeting Start Time: 5:07 p.m.

Meeting End Time: 7:07p.m.

1. Approval of minutes from February 17, 2015 Board Meeting
Anne moved to approve minutes from the Board's February 17, 2015 meeting, Edes seconded, followed by the Board's unanimous approval.
2. Budget and Finance – Rachana Creeth and Paul Greenwood
Greenwood gave a charter school finance presentation that outlined the fiscal responsibility of the board, charter school finance basics, budgeting and monitoring and an analysis of Hawthorn's FY15-16 budget. Greenwood noted Hawthorn's fundraising efforts that have allowed the mission to drive the budget. Fundraising successes will allow the school to open with a great deal of financial security.

Rachana moved to approve FY2015 – 2016 budget, Mary seconded, followed by the Board's unanimous approval

Year to date financials were distributed to the Board.

3. Committee on Trustees closed session to consider faculty-hiring recommendations (Requires roll call vote to close session.)

Mary motioned for roll call to close session to consider the Principal's recommendation for hire. Rachana seconded. Roll Call Response to motion:

Rachana – Aye	Kathryn - Aye
Anne - Aye	Mary - Aye
Nikki - Aye	Edes – Aye
John - Aye	Tim – Aye

Mary motioned to end the closed session, Tim seconded.

Roll Call Response to motion:

Rachana – Aye	Mary - Aye
Anne - Aye	Edes – Aye
Nikki - Aye	Tim – Aye
John – Aye	
Kathryn - Aye	

4. Kathryn motioned to approve the slate of hiring recommendations made by the principal. John seconded. The motion to hire the slate of hires was adopted unanimously.
5. Principal's Report – Robyn Wiens
 - a. Student recruitment
Current enrollment is 32. Tim noted that for charter schools, at this time of the year, this is a great number. Robyn reviewed plans for recruiting students during the coming months, including one of our currently enrolled student's parent hosting a meet and greet for recruitment efforts.

6. Update/Request for Board approval for professional services – Mary Stillman
Mary asked the board to approve the hire of Special Education Lawyer, John Brink from Thomeczek & Brink, LLC. Rachana moved to approve the hire, Kathryn seconded, followed by the Board’s unanimous approval.
7. Building and Grounds – John Ross and Tim Rowbottom
 - a. Renovation update on 1901
Construction began on March 2, with the elevator being the longest lead time item. Cost of the renovations to the building (other than the science labs) are between \$1M and \$1.2M. Tarlton has been incredibly helpful in keeping costs down. Monsanto has donated a significant amount of lab casework and a chemical fume hood, which will be installed as part of the science lab renovation. The time line for completed construction is tentatively set for mid-July.
 - b. Update on 1929 project
The parcel north of 1901 is under option contract. Proposals were solicited and a sub contractor was hired to excavate the land. The parking lot design is completed and the process of due diligence and closing is set for end of March, with completion of construction set for June.
8. Development – Mary Stillman and Kathryn Love
 - a. NAP and YOP tax credits
Hawthorn has received \$250K of NAP credits and \$250K of YOP credits. A million will need to be raised against those credits. The YOP credits are specifically designated to the science labs. Kathryn suggested that there should be strategy for leveraging the credits most effectively. The Board agreed that setting a minimum for YOP credits would be key to efficiently and quickly achieving the goal and we will establish that threshold in the near future.
 - b. April 18 fundraiser, “Stock the School” – Benay Hicks
700 invitations will be mailed in the coming weeks and the caterer and entertainment have been confirmed. The goal is to raise \$250K from approximately 500+ guests. Expenses are currently at \$25,000. \$16,000 in event sponsorships has been secured to offset event expenses.

Future Meeting Dates:

April 7
May 5
June 2

Special Announcement:

The Metro Theater Company will honor Robyn V Wiens, EdD with a performance of Laurie Brook’s AFFLICTED: Daughters of Salem. The induction and performance will be held on Saturday, March 14, 2015. Hawthorn and Washington University supported the event with sponsorship as did some of our individual board members.