

Board Special Session, September 4, 2012

Role Call 6:41 pm

Alyssa Lane – Here Gohar Wise – Here Stephen Morgan – Here Jennifer Miller – Here Laura Allman–
Here David Locke – Here Sheila Woodson -Absent

Board members responsibility and Authority evaluation –

The new bylaws that we are using right now are putting too much power into the hands of one person – president.

Gohar- Every board that has been read about, it is always the administrator that takes care of day-to-day business. Board oversees the administrator. Not one person on the board should be running the school business. We as a board are here to set policy and work on items that are not immediate, but that are 3-5 years ahead. One of our employees is a family member, and it may be difficult for our president to make non-biased decisions. Budgetary cuts. Have seen current president demonstrate his power and authority and not comfortable with that. In general, since we are all volunteers, none of us should have that much authority and all business should be conducted as a group. Trying to eliminate possible scenarios in the future for problems with authority.

Stephen – Make reference to President and direction. Alyssa make reference to chair – and duties. Co-chair is equivalent to our current chair – Chair is equivalent to our President. The bylaws committee is currently trying to refocus the vision of.

When the previous board brought the new bylaws to the table (general revision) an entire new set of bylaws. Not amended section by section. Old bylaws are still in effect and each section of revision needs to be read. If it is adopted, old bylaws are thrown out. Old bylaws are still in effect until that happens. Bylaws were adopted according to procedure. The reading for changing an amendment must be done with due notice. Due notice has not been given. Takes a 2/3 vote for all listed actions. Also requires a previous notice.

In agreement that the bylaws need to be addressed and that the old bylaws need to have the same scrutiny as the current.

The whole purpose of the board is to run as a unit and the purpose of the seats is to have structure during a board meeting. The essence is that no one person should have authority over any other member of the board. Definition of president can be taken to a whole new level and gives too much authority. The board works as a whole and communicates. No matter what our opinions are, everyone has their own opinion. However we do support those decisions as a whole and one voice. Structure is good. But that the person leading the structure is not above any other members. Utilized communication chain to gather the opinion of the board. There is no one person that people can come to to resolve issues.

Problems of ethics: called that Stephen wanted to be the President. Yelled at everyone for making the decisions while he was vacation. Has humiliated a member in front of the membership. President is too much authority for someone with a conflict of interest. (wife is an employee) subject was brought up during a district meeting and did not excuse himself from decisions.

Shiela Woodson is joining by phone at 7:16pm

Stephen would be willing to accept the decision of the board regarding taking a different role within the board and not as president. If the board were to ask or remove him, yes he would do with the same vigor and passion as he did as the president.

Sheila- I feel that every board member has expertise in some area, that benefits the school as a whole. The chair and the president acts as a checks and balance, like the accountability committee. If having someone else as the president, not sure.

Needs to understand the qualities of the leaders to inspire others to better things, not through humiliation. Need to remember that the said person was allowed to go into executive session and she chose to public session. Had a choice of handling the situation differently.

Laura – It is good that we have diversity and non-agreement all the time. But, many parents do not like the fact that one person has more authority than the others.

Shiela in person at 7:26pm

Perception of many members are that the president is not acting in the direction of the board.

Issues that were brought to the board by members:

- President was in direct violation by making a decision regarding a motion to the district. The discussion was given in the advice of the attorney and Stephen acted on that advice without the consult of the board and against the specific motion of the board. The advice was given by the attorney was altered on Friday afternoon and the district needed action on Monday morning. None of the board members were called until Monday morning after the decision was made.
- We discuss things in executive session in legal. When a motion is made, if there is something that comes in conflict with that motion (no matter how small) needs to be brought forth prior. Procedure was not followed. Has been given the authority to be the liason in regards to the attorney. Legal consult showed up without any prior authorization of the board. It costs money for every time the attorney is called. First instinct is to call legal.
- No paper trail with anything. Everything is done through phone calls. No business is ever to occur outside this board. No decision can be made without a board meeting.
- You tell and negotiate numbers with the district. But Gohar had to call the district to get the numbers. Approval to pay an invoice a percentage of it, but never discussed with Gohar.
- When information is brought to us, but confidential information is leaked. The information is not of a nature of confidentiality. It was done in a manner of non-transparency and is not a matter of being confidential or not. We were left in a position with no documentation and in

the process of documentation. Poor judgement call in assuming it is not confidential. Stories are being changed.

Purpose of the meeting to make a decision.

Gohar motions to remove Stephen Morgan from the position of the President, not from the board.

Jennifer 2nd that motion.

A difference of opinion and doing things. Most of us has had to work through the weekend, but Stephen has not done that. On behalf of the confidential information, nothing should have been brought up. Communication that was raised in conflict and anger. This needs to be a very professional arena. Some of these things need to be adhered to this process and not any other way. The fact that he went for this position from the beginning and leaves Gohar with an unrest. Stephen was receptive to being the president but did not expect to be elected. We have a different way of handling things.

Gohar – yes Jennifer – yes Laura – abstain David – no Stephen – no shiela – no

Motion not passed

The recommendation is being made to remove the presidency by the bylaw committee. And will be made a priority.

Alyssa motions that for the time being that Stephen remains as President until the bylaw committee can modify this office. And put on a plan of improvement as discussed by the board and recommendations by the board be implemented with the understanding that if they are not implemented then the board can discuss removal at a later date.

Laura 2nd the motion

Discussion: to please put the expectations in writing so that Stephen can follow. And look at this as a clean slate and continue to look for what those expectations are.

Gohar opposed. 5 in favor.

Motion passes.

Laura motion that Alyssa be the liason with the attorney under direction of the board.

Gohar 2nd that motion.

David motion to amend that it be Jennifer as the liason with attorney

Gohar 2nd that motion

All in favor non opposed. As amended

Voting for the motion as amended. Jennifer will be the liason for the attorney.

Adjournment at 9:45 pm