Minutes for Wednesday May 11, 2022

2pm via Zoom

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Frieda Harris, Marcy Moore. Teacher-Admin Sylvia Wolff. Members of the public: Erin Price, Amy Adams, Karen Clark.

The meeting was called to order at 2pm. A quorum was established.

Board action

* Approve April minutes – Meghan made a motion to approve the April draft minutes with Bryan’s suggested edits. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Face covering policy review – stands.
* Educational Leave – No new requests.
* Approve edits to Lottery Policy (addition of statute, clarification re: not having to re-apply once enrolled regardless of Intent to Return survey) – Bryan made a motion to adopt the updated lottery policy as written. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.

President’s Report

* Charter for the upcoming year is signed, notarized, scanned and sent off. It has been received and becomes effective in July.
* IDEA grant – now opens May 1-May 30 so in process now. Next step is a legal advertisement to announce that our special education grant is upcoming and Teacher Voldish is available if anyone would like to discuss it. The ad will be printed today and Sunday.
* 2 Job Descriptions posted – Board will discuss applicants in closed session
* Public records request received and replied to with the help of Acadia. Information requests occur often now.
* LIEP renewal – Should happen this month. LIEP is our approach for responding to English language learners. It must be signed by Meghan every year even though there are no changes.
* Teacher Appreciation week – Kudos to our SIP team for organizing! SIP members gathered money, purchased and distributed gifts.

Treasurer’s Report

* 2022-2023 Budget review – More income is projected from the counties for the 2022-23 school year. Further budget discussion will occur in closed session because it deals with teacher salaries.
* AFLAC direct payment/withdrawals – non-primary insurance (vision, dental) will be available, but staff members will not be required to opt in. Nothing will be charged to CEF; rather, the money will be withheld from paychecks of those who opt in. Bryan made a motion to proceed with Acadia re: Aflac—optional benefit for teachers. Meghan seconded all voted in favor.
* Audit renewal – will proceed with the same auditor who has changed firms.

This is short version of treasurer’s report as we had the in-depth version last month.

At the end of April CEF had:
\* $303k in the operating account (an increase of $17k from previous month)
\* $454k in the building project account (an increase of $88k, $77k of which was from redeemed CD)
\*  $42k in a CD that is maturing next week and will be deposited to building project account
\* $0.5 in a savings account at First National Bank that will be closed out when redeeming the CD (it was required for opening CD accounts)
For a total of $800k

In April, $16k from the counties and $8k from federal was received, in addition to the more routine $31k from the state.
Some re-allocation of prior period expenses to utilize federal funds led to the surplus in April.

With two months remaining in the fiscal year, expenses remain under budget (salaries being the key reason) and revenue higher than originally budgeted due to federal programs.

Assuming the trends continue, this will mean an additional $50-150k from the operating budget can be transferred to the building project, with a significant reserve remaining.

CD will mature next week which will be redeemed and rolled into the building account. Counties are keeping up with payments. Surplus in April. Small surplus projected at end of year.

Committee Reports

* Curriculum/Teacher Eval/Professional Development – Susan finished observations for Teacher Fretwell and Teacher/Admin Wolff and has reminded Teacher Sonnenberg to keep a record of his PD credits for license renewal, which does not happen this year. Teacher/Admin Wolff’s license has been renewed this year. Teacher Allen will need to maintain her PD credits/licensure to renew her license in three years.
* Capital Campaign Committee Update – Pledges are fulfilled on a case-by-case basis. One will become active when we break ground. Building account: $435k + pledges and $30k in Give Butter. The committee is meeting weekly and currently taking signups for volunteers to staff the schoolhouse for tours during the summer—mostly parents but also some interested community members. Meghan is sending out press releases and emails roughly every week. Meghan and Bryan had a promising meeting with Doug Brindley, who offered to send out letters to his owners encouraging them to donate at least $100. We’re about half a million away from our goal.
* Facilities – Have secured an engagement agreement with a lawyer to make amendments to the Corolla Village covenants to allow a school building to be built. Received new architectural plans with changes from suggestions from the Twiddy family and the Outer Banks Conservationists—reoriented the building on the lot so it doesn’t overwhelm the current building and so no live oaks will need to be removed. There has been concern expressed over the garage door component (history of leaking, etc.) and has been determined that it will require maintenance but there is not a major leak issue. We are ready to go to builders with plans and see if they’re willing to put in a proposal. We have four or five on our list. It is probably time to grow the facilities committee with members who are comfortable engaging with builders and/or have expertise. DOT email with no response still.
* Grievance Committee – none
* School Improvement Planning (SIP) – Reached out to parents to let them know they have a grade-level liaison. Organized first Fridays. Amazing teacher appreciation week. Feedback is getting more refined and in-depth.

 New Business – Closed session to follow

Old Business – Jobs posted on social media and emailed to 110 people who had ever expressed an interest in WEVS jobs, and emailed specifically one candidate who missed the last round of hiring by a week. Discussion of candidates to follow in closed session.

Teachers/Admin update

* Kidwind – WEVS regional winners for 2018, 2019, 2022. A proposal for financial support for students and one teacher to attend national event in San Antonio was emailed to the board. Airfare has already been secured as prices climbed daily. Al made a motion to ratify the $4000 already spent on airline tickets and approve another $1000 for additional expenses. Meghan seconded and all voted in favor. Expenses include airfare for three students and one teacher, hotel room and per diem pay for one teacher. Parents will pay their own way.
* ELA project – The world of 7 billion—a 1-minute video regarding a problem of growing population. Students Natalie and Nicole took first place in NC.
* Bike Safety – Corolla Fire and Rescue did a wonderful job. All kids who participated had bikes and helmets.
* Graduation – June 7, potluck at 12:30. Graduating five 8th graders this year, our biggest class to date. Marcy will host a pool party afterwards, not a WEVS sponsored event.
* Summer instruction due to learning loss from Covid – PRC 082. Instruction will include ELA and math.
* Surf lessons for PE class next week on Monday
* Testing news – EOGs during the final weeks of school.

 Public Comment - none

The Board moved into closed session at 3:12pm.

CLOSED SESSION: Contract renewal for staffs, bonuses, Rehiring contractors (Speech; testing)

Susan made a motion to end the meeting. Marcy seconded and all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 4:47pm.