

New Heights Board of Trustees

November 15, 2016

Starting Time: 5:30

Location: New Heights Charter School Board Room

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
   1. Rick Schwartz
   2. Tony Modica
   3. Ollie Spears
   4. Carlos Gomes
   5. Mike Sullivan
   6. Nick Christ
3. Reading and Approval of Minutes
   1. None
4. Reports of Officers, Boards, and Standing Committees
   1. Chairperson’s Report
      1. Chairman Sullivan requests a report from Executive Director Walker about facilities
   2. Executive Director’s Report
      1. We are currently awaiting confirmation that the appeal process with the zoning board is over. The attorney for 1690 Main Street as well as the attorney for NCHSB are both trying to reach a resolution.
         1. Discussion: Will the building be open by 12/1? The operations team is waiting to hear about the completion of the bathrooms.
         2. Will the permitting office give NHCSB an occupancy permit for 12/1? It is a possibility, but there are still a number of inspections that need to be completed.
         3. Executive Director Walker requests a motion to grant him permission to seek a week-to-week lease at the Norwood location.
         4. Motion: To grant Executive Director the authority to negotiate terms that would allow NHCSB to remain temporarily at the Norwood site until 1690 Main Street is granted occupancy.
            1. Discussion: Trustee Spears amends the motion to suggest that Executive Director Walker has the authority to request week-to-week but in the event the landlord denies our request, Executive Director Walker may request the month of December.
         5. Motion: The Board does not approve the extension for the month of December but does authorize ED Walker to negotiate with the landlord to allows NHCSB to remain in Norwood until 12/5. Further, ED Walker is authorized to enter into an agreement on a per diem basis with the landlords in Norwood depending on the number days NHCSB requires prior to the return to Brockton.
            1. Discussion: What are the financial repercussions if NCHSB remains in Norwood. The staff assured the Board that they have been working on financial forecasting. The cost to remain for the month of December is $120,000 ($45,000 rent, $15,000 triple net, $3500 for busing per day). Board discusses the need to return to Brockton quickly due to escalating costs of remaining in a temporary site whilst also paying for renovations.
            2. Motion to approve to the motion on the table
            3. Motion passes unanimously.
         6. Financial Forecast
            1. The Board raised concerns about moving the school prematurely and wondered if there may be an opportunity to seek private funding to keep the school in Norwood through the month of December.
            2. Chairman Sullivan responds that the motion on the table gives ED Walker the authority to negotiate whatever is necessary in the best interest of the school.
         7. Chairman Sullivan requests a motion to move into Executive Session to discussion legal matters.
            1. Motion approved.
            2. Board enters Executive Session at 6pm
            3. Board leaves Executive Session at 6:30pm
         8. ED Walker requests an update on escalating costs at 1690 from Director of Finance Tom Coogan
            1. There remains approximately $200,000 in additional costs to complete Phase I, the first floor of 1690 Main Street. Costs are approximately $300,000 over the original budget.
            2. Unexpected costs include paint, flooring, ceiling costs that were not part of his original estimate. Additional costs in smoke alarm changes. The main thing was that the owner of the property did not have a tight enough knowledge of the costs.
            3. Director of Operations Liz Coogan reminds the Board that remaining in Norwood means additional costs, suggesting the sooner NHCSB returns to Brockton, the better.
5. Reports of Special Committees
   1. Finance Committee Report
      1. None
   2. Governance Committee Report
      1. None
   3. Academic Excellence Committee Report
      1. None
6. Special Orders
   1. None
7. Unfinished Business and General Orders
   1. None
8. New Business
   1. None
9. Good of the Order
   1. Announcements
      1. None
10. Adjourn
    1. Meeting was adjourned at 7pm