



The Hope Center
Board of Directors Meeting
March 26, 2018
5:00 pm

The Hope Center
1695 SE Indian Street
Stuart, FL 33469

1. Call to Order

In attendance: Mark Murray, director, Joanne Sweazey, executive director, Jim Applegate, President, George Koester, Treasurer, Susan Maxwell, Director, Michele Drake, Director
Absent: Linda Pierce, Secretary and Nina Ferraro, Director

Susan Burrows was introduced to the group. She has an extensive background in exceptional student education and was previously the principal of the Challenger School, now Willoughby Learning Center. She was interested in possibly joining the board in the future.

Joanne will check in with Jose Bravo who has previously attended meetings to see if all is well and if he is able to attend April 2 event.

2. Approval of Agenda Items / Additions or Deletions
The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes from last meeting

Minutes were approved.

4. Agenda Items

- a. Proposal to include a Consent Agenda Approval for future meetings – Joanne explained the purpose of a consent agenda and will get items to be approved through the consent agenda to board members in a timely manner. Mr. Applegate made a motion to approve the consent agenda and Mr. Koester 2nd the motion – all members approved.

b. Discuss April 2 event

Jim shared information regarding the upcoming event. Suzy Hutchinson, president of HPS was contacted and agrees with holding the events that day. Joanne will get the name tags put together for the event. This is the keystone event to future endeavors for the new building. It is very important that we do it the right way. Lighting up the Roosevelt bridge and other Martin County Landmarks in blue is about 90% possible. Board members are asked to attend the event.

c. Expansion Update

Jim will have an 11:00 Thursday, March 29 meeting with Martin county growth management staff to review placement of the portables on the land. Alex from Mobile Modular will attend this pre-site plan application meeting. The growth committee has the modular phase site plan. 8 classrooms plus administration building are planned in modular for the 2018-2019 school year.

Both parcels of land are insured at this time and the cost is \$5 more a year to our current insurance cost.

Garcia Stromberg are having top notch renderings done in China and they will be here by April 2, 2018 for the groundbreaking event.

Jim will update the board following the growth planning meeting.

Jim informed the board of all the agencies and individuals who are providing their services to the HCFA expansion pro bono or for very limited costs:

- Garcia Stromberg – architects
- Lucidio and associates – land Planning, Landscape Architecture, Land Entitlement, Land Stewardship, Visualization, etc.
- Bob Rains, attorney
- Cotton and company, marketing
- Tom McNicholas, public affairs and public relations

d. Approval of 18 -19 school year calendar

Discussed adding days to employee calendar to attend the events. Currently teachers and behavior technicians are expected to attend up to 5 events a year. Board members are

also expected to attend events. Joanne will review again and present again at next board meeting for approval.

e. Payroll services proposal

- Check ADP
- Paychex
- Currently with Benefit Mall

Joanne will secure at least three proposals prior to securing a contract. This service will decrease the amount of time spent on human resources needs. Information will be shared at the next board meeting.

5. Directors Report

a. Updates

- i. Martin County Community Foundation grant – grant for professional development and community services was submitted
- ii. United Way Grant for after care programming will be submitted this week.
- iii. Sammy Santoris grant was received for \$2000 for assistive technology equipment.
- iv. Mark Murray asked about a previous grant opportunity he shared from google – Joanne will follow up and let Mark and the board know if this has been worked on.
- v. Joanne shared that parents have also been sharing grant opportunities.

b. LATS/Resource Center

- i. Kim Willis, SLP, will become LATS (assistive technology) certified
- ii. Assistive technology will be part of the resource center so that parents, educators and community members can access items that may increase the independence of individuals with autism.

c. Staff training

- i. Prevent, Teach Reinforce (PTR) training (writing behavior plans as a team)– Dr. Rose Iannone, University of South Florida, has been providing weekly training to staff. Dr. I. cowrote the PTR book with Glen Dunlap, leaders in the field of autism
- ii. Environmental Communication Training – Bennet Buckles from Florida Diagnostic and Learning Center has been providing monthly training for staff on the implementation of supports throughout the school day to increase the communication and independence of students

d. Fundraising report

- i. Fashion Show – Doug Campbell, parent of adult with disabilities and founder of Miami Learning Center has shared information from a fashion show that they had that raised \$347,000 for their school. This would be a great fundraiser for us in collaboration with LuLa Roe and other clothing companies – the fundraising committee will follow up.
- ii. Need to plan events for next year to ensure that there are no overlapping events

6. Information Items

a. Golf Tournament

- i. Jim is challenging each board member to raise \$5000 for the tournament
 - 1. Send flyers to all board members
 - 2. Instagram, Facebook, Twitter – make sure it's out there
 - a. Susan suggested that we pay to boost the post on Facebook
 - 3. Tayla – Signs in a day
 - a. Send Mark the pricing
 - 4. Flamingo Signs – Susan will check on that too
 - 5. Have Marilyn send the list of who we have donations from
 - 6. How much was made on the silent auction?
- b. Cornerstone venue out by Tesoro
- c. Need a Friday Night auction planned for next year

7. Action Items

8. New Business

- a. Welcome Susan Burrows and asked her to attend a 2nd board meeting
- b. Check on Mark Murray Grant - Google

9. Old Business

10. Public Comment

- *You will be allowed 3 minutes to speak during public comment. If you would like to speak for more than 3 minutes, please contact the Executive Director and schedule a public appearance. If several members of the public or several members of a group share similar opinions on the same issues, a representative, rather than all the members, should address the Board.*

- *Board action will not be taken on requests made during unscheduled appearances during the public discussion period until a later meeting unless the Board declares the matter to be an emergency.*

11. Adjourn