



MINUTES
VSWEA Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2023
VIA [Zoom](#)

Members Present:

Kerstin Kubina (KK)—President
Dan Franks (DF)—Treasurer
April Sauer (AS)—Secretary
John Tanner (JT)

Danielle Martinez (DM)
Nellie Grossenbacher (NG)
Ashley Parks (AP)

Members Absent: Ben Fong and Myriah Mhoon

The President, Treasurer, and Secretary were present, and a quorum was reached.

Guests

Invitees of the Board:
Frank Mirizio (FM)
Paula Cummings (PC)

Members of the public present via Zoom/Registration through Google Forms:

Sophie McCurley
Deb
Michelle Kratzer

Opening Verse/Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. KK welcomed the public to the meeting and read the opening verse.

The Board members introduced themselves as well as FM and PC.

Executive Director Updates

FM Quick update: we have now completed our hiring in Special Education. We have hired a psychologist who has been working out great, and we have hired Dr. Jane Rupard as our special education director. She has 30 years of experience. We hired Nicolette Crosman and Cam Cooper as aides. We promoted Dannie O'Connor as our HR specialist. We promoted Luis Camacho as our plant foreman. He will still teach woodworking, but he will also be working the grounds with Hector. We conducted interviews for the fundraising position. Thanks to JT and AS for coming in during the summer for an interview. They are in agreement that we should hire Sophie McCurley for the position. We have three Waldorf graduates from our summer training program: Angelina Hart, Chloe Makowski, and Tammy Lopez. I'll keep you updated on our woodshop. We got the ERC grant in the amount of \$700,000 plus. It's currently in our savings account, and we look forward to your recommendations as to where to relocate it. We plan not

to use any of it at this point in case the government flips on us. In the meantime, we can earn interest on this money.

KK I am just so excited about having three more Waldorf trained teachers. That's just really amazing.

Financial Update

KK Shared her screen to show the P & L Forecast with Budget. We adjusted our budget recently for our 290 enrolled students. We're a little overspent this year, but considering we purchased three new air conditioners, this isn't too bad. There's a few other fluctuations, but I'm pretty pleased with the budgeting from last year. We are stable financially. Shared Balance Sheet on her screen. Showed three month cushion we have in savings. Shared Profit and Loss on her screen. Everything is super stable, which we've all worked really hard on.

Proposed Motions

KK moved to approve the 06/07/23 regular meeting minutes. NG second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: AS, DM, NG, AP, JT. Abstain: KK, DF. **Motion passes.**

KK moved to approve the field trip policy for DMS. DF second. The following discussion took place:

KK, DM, AP, and AS discussed changes to the policy.

Votes in favor: KK, AS, DF, DM, AP, JT. Opposed: NG. **Motion passes.**

Continuing Business/Open Issues

No continuing business.

New Business

ERC Grant

KK FM already touched on this, but we're wondering what the best thing is to do with the money.

DM A lot of new banks have higher incentives when opening a new account. Chase offers a few options. Shared those. With the FDIC concern, there are ten years to repay funds if there's an issue. We should look for the best rate of returns.

KK Would anyone like to take up the research on the banks?

DM I can do that, but I'd like to have someone else participate.

DF I can participate in that.

DM Who are our current signers?

KK Myself and FM, and I think AS.

AS Yes, I'm a signer. I remember going with Gregory to the bank to set that up after we had some resignations, but I've yet to sign anything.

FM Our main signer now lives out of state, so we may be calling on you.

AS I'll be ready with my pen.

FM A year will go by fast, but in January or February we should put a committee together to start thinking about what to spend those funds on.

FY24 Proposed Budget

AS We had 11 noncertified teachers in 2023 and for next school year we're down to 1 because so many have taken their state testing. That's amazing. Kudos to FM and our faculty who have put in the work to follow through on this. There's a line in the budget for school sponsored athletics for \$3500. What does that go to?

FM Second semester we started club volleyball. We bought some supplies for volleyball. This money will go to the budget for volleyball, and we have some new teachers who may want to start a few new clubs and sports. I'm not ready to join the CAA again, but if we do this for a few years we'll be ready to compete.

AS Is it possible to add funding to circus?

FM We had about 7k in the circus account and that went to the shed. He wanted to move away from the high school.

DM Is circus still a budget item?

FM It's not because we emptied out the account for that.

AS So I think circus needs to do some fundraising.

DM Circus could also put in a funding request for parent council.

NG Regarding Hector and Luis, was there an increase in both of their salaries?

FM Yes. We made those hires this week, so it may not be in this budget. There will be updates in the next spreadsheet. A reminder that we have to wait ten days to adopt the final budget, so I'm hoping to move our next meeting up.

DM Were there options left open for strings or additional programming?

FM I don't have a line item yet, but teachers are including it in classes and parents are paying for it. We also have a grant that Ben Fong found that we can use to buy music and stands.

KK This vote is for the proposed budget, and we'll have an updated vote on the final budget.

KK moved to approve the FY24 Proposed Budget. DF second. No further discussion. Votes in favor: KK, AS, DM, DF, NG, AP, JT. **Motion passes.**

KK We will all need to sign the cover sheet for the budget. I'll send that out through an electronic signature, and we'll get that submitted.

Next Meeting 07/12 for Budget Approval

KK We'd like to change our next meeting to 7/12.

DF That's moving from 7/19 to 7/12? I can make the 12th.

NG I'll be out of town.

DM I may just have audio, but I can make it.

FM I'll change that date on our online calendar.

AS I'll change the date on the board page.

PC Board Rep.

AS I've served as board rep for Parent Council since joining the board. It's the first assignment I took on. I've asked for someone else to take over, and AP has graciously agreed to do so. Starting this school year, she will be our new board rep. I will email Laura and Michelle and let them know. Anything you'd like to add AP?

NG Thanks AS, and thanks AP for taking that on.

AP I figured what else am I doing besides my doctorate?

DM Thank you, AS for serving for so many years.

KK Yes, thank you, AS and AP.

Fundraising Coordinator Position

KK FM already spoke about this so there's nothing else to add.

Announcements

KK The next board meeting is 07/12 at 6:30pm via Zoom. Thank you, FM and AS, for making those changes to the calendars.

AS Just a reminder to fill out the survey which is live until July 1st.

KK Should we send out a reminder?

DM Yes. Should I send that to you, AS?

AS Yes.

JT moved to close the meeting. DM second. No further discussion. Unanimous vote in favor: KK, AS, DF, JT, DM, NG, AP. **Motion passes.**

Closing Verse

AP read the closing verse.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20pm.

Prepared by AS on 06.21.2023.