

**ADVOCATES FOR INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS, INC.
BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING
New Orleans Museum of African American Art**

1418 Governor Nicholls St.

New Orleans, Louisiana 70116

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, July 27, 2021

MINUTES

Attending:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Barbara Crain-Major, President | 1. Raven Bell, Member |
| 2. Louvinia Wallace, Vice President | |
| 3. Ora Wiley, Treasurer | |
| 4. Cheryl Beaco, Secretary | |
| 5. Debra Adams, Member | |
| 6. Terry Clay, Member | |
| 7. Debra Gould, Member | |
| 8. Charmaine Sonnier, Member | |

Staff:

1. John McCrary, CEO
2. Deidra Bradley, Principal
3. Terracenia Rodney, Asst. Principal
4. Cheryllyn Branche, EA
5. Marlene Wade, CFO
6. L'Tanya Randolph-Bruno, Business Office
7. Austin Sonnier, Instructional Coach

Consultants:

1. Laeisha Robichaux, Chief of Minds
2. Tabitha Christentry, Chief of Minds
3. **Corai Jackson, Chief of Minds**
4. Willie Zanders, Attorney
5. Roslyn J. Smith, Consultant

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Barbara Crain-Major called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Ms. Crain-Major, Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Wiley, Ms. Gould, Mr. Clay, Ms. Sonnier and Dr. Wallace. Ms. Bell was absent. A quorum of members was established.

II. Approval of Agenda

Debra Adams made a motion to accept the Agenda and Debra Gould seconded the motion. The motion to accept the printed agenda was approved with a unanimous vote by Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Wiley, and Ms. Crain-Major.

III. Approval of the Minutes

There were no Minutes because the Professional Development Session was not a business meeting.

IV. New Business

I. Strategic Planning Training by Chief of Minds

A. Facilitate Strategic Planning Activities

1. COM led a full-day board retreat focused on strategic planning and team building. Activities included structured, highly participatory exercises focused on vision, mission, guiding principles, academics, finance, human resources, funding, team leadership, parental involvement, and community engagement to align strategic direction.
2. During the strategic planning sessions we conducted a SWOT analysis and create an action plan that includes objectives with high level goals, timelines, key performance indicators, stakeholders, and responsible parties for implementation. All participants and responsible parties were asked for feedback and recommendations to assure work advances as outlined in the final strategic plan.

B. Team Building Exercise

1. Due to time constraints, COM suggested AIS conduct team building exercises (board and staff leadership) that encourages collaboration and builds trust and respect.

V. Adjournment

The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by consensus and was unanimous.

Secretary



9-29-2021

Date

**ADVOCATES FOR INNOVATIVE SCHOOLS, INC.
BOARD STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING**

Robert Russa Moton Charter School

Library

New Orleans, Louisiana 70126

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, July 28, 2021

MINUTES

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

President Barbara Crain-Major called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m. The roll was called and a quorum was established. Present were Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Sonnier, Dr. Wallace and Ms. Crain-Major. Mr. Clay reported about 10 minutes later. Absent were Ms. Bell and Ms. Wiley

II. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Gould motioned to approve the agenda. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Sonnier, Dr. Wallace and Ms. Crain-Major accepted the minutes. The President suggested adjusting the agenda to conduct the Old and New Business before the CEO Strategic Planning Report. The change was agreed upon by consensus.

III. Approval of Minutes from June 11, 2021 Regular Meeting

Ms. Gould motioned to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2021 Regular Meeting. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Sonnier, Dr. Wallace and Ms. Crain-Major approved minutes. (*#V on the Agenda*)

IV. Team Building

History and Transformation of Moton Charter School Roslyn J. Smith
In the interest of time, this presentation was canceled until further notice.

V. Chief Executive Officer Report John McCrary

a. CEO Strategic Planning Report

The CEO shared a detailed PowerPoint report. Highlights from the CEO's presentation are bulleted here.

- Multi-Learning Pathways is our Education Model
- School Within A School is a strategy to help teachers to grow and develop
 - K – 3 (Rodney)
 - 4 – 8 (Bradley and 4 – 8 Overall)
 - 7 – 8 (Sonnier) Content
- STEM Intern
- Algebra Project tutors

- Harmonizing Academics, Operations, and Finance
- Building a true Leadership Team
- Hot spots for Internet will be through Cox
- SEL – Social Emotional Learning is one of our Pathways
- A Net – Diagnostic testing also daily assessment and a live coach to help teachers remotely
- PD training to meet student needs
- Cohort Leaders, Team Leaders

Principal's Report

Deidra Bradley

a. Staffing

- a. A few vacancies are being filled.

b. Enrollment

• Pre-K 18	• 4 th – 46
• K – 28	• 5 th – 58
• 1 st – 53	• 6 th – 46
• 2 nd – 51	• 7 th – 52
• 3 rd – 45	• 8 th – 58

c. Opening of School Preparation

- i. Encouraging vaccinations

LUNCH BREAK

The Board Members held a Working Lunch.

VI. Old Business

1. TRSL Policy and Addendum (Second Reading)

Willie Zanders

Ms. Gould made a motion to accept the TRSL Policy and Addendum. Mr. Clay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

2. Ms. Sonnier made a motion to add the Employee Sign-In Policy to the agenda.

Ms. Adams seconded the motion. The vote to add the agenda item was unanimous.

3. Ms. Gould made a motion to accept the **Employee Sign-In Policy**. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. The CEO may differentiate guidelines for assigned individuals signing in procedures. Everyone MUST sign in and if they leave at any time before the end of their workday, they must sign out. The vote was unanimous.

4. Review of Bylaws Revision (First Reading)

Each section of the Bylaws was discussed. Dr. Wallace, Ms. Bearco, and Dr. Smith were charged with contributing final edits for the Second Reading to be held at the next regular meeting.

5. Nomination Slate for AIS Officers 2021 - 2022

Debra Gould

Ms. Gould was recognized for organizing the ballot. Mr. Zanders conducted the Election of Officers.

VII. New Business

1. Election of AIS Officers for 2021 - 2011

Willie Zanders

Ms. Gould nominated Ms. Barbara Crain-Major for President. Ms. Adams seconded the motion. Nominations were closed with one in the field. The vote for Ms. Crain Major was unanimous.

Ms. Adams nominated Ms. Ora Wiley for Treasurer. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. Due to her absence Ms. Wallace was contacted by phone to accept the nomination, which she did confirm. Nominations were closed with one in the field. The votes "for" were from Ms. Wiley Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Clay and Ms. Crain-Major. Dr. Wallace abstained.

Ms. Adams nominated Ms. Cheryl Beaco for Secretary. Ms. Gould seconded the motion. Nominations were closed with one in the field. The vote for Ms. Beaco was unanimous.

Ms. Adams nominated Mr. Terry Clay for Vice-President. Ms. Gould seconded the motion. Nominations were closed with one in the field. The vote for Mr. Clay was Ms. Adams, Ms. Beaco, Ms. Gould, Ms. Sonnier, Mr. Clay and Ms. Crain-Major. Dr. Wallace abstained.

2. Congratulations and gratitude were extended to the newly elected officers. Assignments for Standing Committees AIS President
Ms. Crain-Major stated that she would send out Standing Committee memberships within the next week or two.

VIII. Administrative Reports

1. CEO Report

John McCrary

a. **CEO Memorandum Of Understanding Between The Orleans Parish School Board And Advocates For Innovative Schools** (relative to the management of emergency repair and capital projects funded by the School Facility Preservation Program)
Ms. Gould motioned for the signing of the MOU and Mr. Clay seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

b. Facility Lease Agreement with OPSB

Ms. Adams made a motion to ratify the signed OPSB Facility Lease Agreement. Ms. Gould seconded the motion. It was pointed out that there were many repairs needed including one of the chillers and a new generator. Negotiations are still not complete. The vote was unanimous.

c. Recommendation for Administrative Vacancies (Executive Session)

This discussion was reserved for Executive Session.

2. Executive Assistant Report

Cheryllyn Branche

- a. Facility Preparation for School Opening
According to Ms. Branche, the school is ready to open with no major issues pending.

3. Chief Finance Officer Report

Marlene Wade

a. Financial Statements and Credit Card Report

b. Receive and Accept the Reports – Federal and State

Ms. Wade detailed the Grant Analysis and briefly discussed current finances. Ms. Sonnier motioned to accept the financial reports and Ms. Beaco seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

c. Annual Budget for 2021 – 2022

The Preliminary Annual Budget was reaffirmed by a vote in a motion by Mr. Clay and seconded by Ms. Sonnier. The vote was unanimous.

d. Ratification of Agreement with Hancock Whitney to secure AIS deposits 100%.

A motion was made by Ms. Sonnier and seconded by Ms. Adams to ratify the agreement with the bank. The vote was unanimous.

IX. Standing Committee Reports (No Reports were given.)

1. Academic
2. Finance
3. Governance

Debra Adams, Chair
Ora Wiley, Chair
Louvinia Wallace, Chair

X. Executive Session

Ms. Adams motioned to go into Executive Session at 1:30 p.m. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

1. Personnel

Roslyn J. Smith, Consultant

- a. Personnel Actions (Hires and/or Changes)
CEO Recommendations for Principal and Executive Assistant to CEO vacancies were discussed. Jobs were advertised. Interviews were conducted according to AIS Procedures.
- b. Distribution of Legislative Salary Increases was discussed.

2. Legal

Willie Zanders, Attorney

- a. Facility Lease Agreement with OP SB was discussed during the open meeting.
- b. MOU between OP SB and AIS for SFPP Management was discussed during the open meeting.

Cheryl Beaco made a motion to end Executive Session at 1:38 p.m. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion.

Debra Adams made a motion to **appoint Ms. Deidra Bradley as Principal (Regular) and Ms. Cheryllyn Branche as Executive Assistant to the CEO (Regular) as per the CEO recommendations.** Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

XI.

Adjournment

Debra Adams made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:39 p.m. Ms. Sonnier seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Secretary



Date

9-29-2021