

GreenMount Board of Trustees Minutes

Nov 14, 2019

Board members present: Angelo Otterbein, Desmond Stinnie, Tracy Pietrzak, John Abell, Kristen Bright, Lisa Folda, Kelley Gludt, Matthew Hankins, Emily Levenson, Katie Morris, Catherine Stokes

Others present: Liz Dover, Laura Marsico, Jen Seletzky

Minutes: The October minutes were approved without corrections.

Admissions Report: Laura reviewed the admissions forecast with a projected enrollment of 110 students for next year, as well as the 5 year trend for admissions including event attendance and inquiries. The open house went really well with a significant increase in the number of families attending.

Building Report: Heather discussed a recent meeting with Central Baltimore Partnership. They offered suggestions for potential funding sources and partners for the trail renovation and larger long-term renovations. There is a meeting with the City Planner next week to update her on our project. Lease negotiations continue to move in the right direction with hopes to have it finalized in December.

Finance Report: Jen discussed resolution #20191114 (see below), which was approved.

The Board of Trustees of The GreenMount School, Inc approves the following individuals as signatories on the MECU bank accounts until such time that the signatories no longer hold the below-noted positions:

- Angelo Otterbein, President of the Board of Trustees
- Elizabeth Dover Baker, Head of School
- Jennifer Seletzky, Business Manager

Jen reviewed the budget and balance sheets. Our assets have been moved as planned to Morgan Stanley Investments. We received the Keifer Grant and now have an endowment fund! John and Desmond briefly reviewed the Strategic Financial Plan with projections for tuition increases of less than 5% each year for the next 3 years. Liz discussed goals for the

model to be structured so it is perpetuating. A more detailed review will occur at the next board meeting.

Development Report: Liz discussed that the Annual Fund is currently slightly less than last year but mailings are different - Amy has been sending groups of mailing in batches instead of all at once. We are currently at 42% parent giving prior to the phonathon next week. We are still awaiting the final dollar amount from Union, raised \$504 from Chipotle, and will likely do another Chipotle event in the spring. The ECHOES students will be making thank yous to the Keifer Foundation and Amy will be reaching out to WJZ to do a community story about the gift. Grandparents and Special Friends Day is 11/28.

Diversity Committee: Katie reported the committee met and is working on goals. She sent questions about developing the committee to a current grandparent who is a diversity practitioner and consultant. Katie has also started reaching out to other schools to learn about their work on diversity, equity and justice issues.

CO-OP Report: The committee will work with the Climate and Strategic Planning committees using Google docs. They would like to develop a mission statement to inform policies, and Lisa will look at the current CO-OP description in the handbook to see if any immediate updates need to be made. A task force will be convened for immediate issues that can be implemented such as reviewing the hourly rate, as it has not been changed in years. Other goals include updates in the weekly newsletter, asking the faculty how the CO-OP can better serve their needs, and organizing social justice events to meet CO-OP hours.

Climate Committee Report: Emily discussed that the committee met with Liz and will continue to do so monthly. They are considering working with the Strategic Planning Committee to survey families; one goal may be to develop topics for small group discussions after the All-Family Meeting. They are looking at ways to spread awareness of the committee and get feedback from parents, and the school will set up an email account for the committee. They plan to survey alums on their perspective after they complete 9th grade. They are also considering changing names of the committee if something else seems more appropriate.

Head of School Report: Liz is working with a group of 4th grade parents to develop a Social and Emotional Development and Education Committee. They will be researching K-8 health and wellness curricula, grants and other resources for a part-time counselor. They will also work on creating a mission for the committee and begin recruitment.

There has been an increased interest overall in committee work from the GMS community. The AIMS Action plan has been submitted with two school-wide goals: articulation of educational programming and administrative procedures, and development of a D/E/J committee actively working with the community as a whole.

The Strategic Plan committee met and is looking for additional members from the community and the faculty.

The board meeting ended with a planned Executive Session.