

William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity

February 24, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Toya Roberts Conston
Terence Frederick
Catherine Mosbacher
Mary Ramos
Yolanda Smith

STAFF/GUESTS

Cheryl Lawson, Executive Director
Annette Simmons, Business Manager

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Hether Benjamin Brown
Gerald Womack

1. Call to Order. The meeting was called to order by Mary Ramos at 9:35 a.m.

2. Establishment of Quorum. The quorum was established at 9:35 a.m.

3. Opening Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Public Comment. There was no public comment.

5. Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2018. Yolanda Smith moved the approval of minutes from January 27, 2018. Terence Frederick seconded the motion. The motion was approved by T. Conston, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, M. Ramos and Y. Smith.

6. Governance and Nominating Committee Report. Committee Chair Catherine Mosbacher reported that the Governance Committee recommends three (3) candidates to join the board: Morris Smith (recommended by Mary Ramos), Imogen Papadopoulos (recommended by Catherine Mosbacher) and Kimberly Wilkinson (recommended by Hether Benjamin Brown). Members will be introduced into service at the March 24, 2018 meeting. The motion was approved by T. Conston, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, M. Ramos and Y. Smith.

At the January Board Training session, it was agreed to have a five-hour Strategic Planning session in an upcoming meeting. Given the importance of Board members getting CEU credit and fulfilling the state requirements of the new Senate Bill 1566 using the state recommended documents, we will postpone the Board Training to our April 28 Board Meeting.

7. Finance and Audit Committee Report. Finance Committee Chair Toya Conston reviewed the January financial reports and moved for Board approval. The motion was approved by T. Conston, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, M. Ramos and Y. Smith.

8. Recruiting. Recruiting numbers were reviewed.

9. Facility Report. The lawyer hired by WALIPP had not been able to serve TSG with the Original Petition. This is a part of the process required to invalidate the lien on the property at 5052 Scott Street. Mary Ramos received an email from TSG asking that the Board settle for a payment of approximately \$40,000.

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10. Academy Report. Dr. Raney presented the report, describing strategies in place to improve student performance; Instructional Rounds (like medical rounds) and Student Led Conference or SLED Conferences. Data from the “Mock” STAAR were reviewed. Board member Mosbacher asked how the Board could demonstrate their support of the faculty and staff. Cheryl Lawson located the **Aim High Awards** program which had been board-approved in July, 2017 as an incentive program for faculty and staff. Catherine Mosbacher moved that the **Aim High Awards** program be announced to faculty and staff. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by T. Conston, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, M. Ramos and Y. Smith. During the last month, safety in schools has been raised as an issue. The Board asked that a Safety Report be provided in the April meeting on what The Lawson Academy is doing to provide a safe environment for students and staff.

11. Executive Director’s Report. Executive Director Cheryl Lawson discussed the HCC discussion where we agree to a full meeting in early April. Catherine Mosbacher will be included in that meeting. Submitting a grant to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Dallas to improve the WALIPP Senior Residence was discussed, and Board members asked that a budget be provided for review prior to submission. Expansion might include acquiring land behind our building and developing additional one-bedroom apartments. It was suggested that SRO (single-room-occupancy) such as were developed by New Hope Housing might allow even more units.

12. Executive Session. There was no Executive Session.

13. Adjournment. Terence Frederick moved adjournment at 10:57 a.m. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by T. Conston, T. Frederick, C. Mosbacher, M. Ramos and Y. Smith.