Washington Yu Ying BOT Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2022 9:30-10:30 (Zoom)

BOT Members: Rob Anderson, Cosabeth Bullock, Liza Douglas, Marcus Hurley, Amy Lee, Quinton Ng, Darren Riley, Wendy Rueda, Michelle Stuntz, Jose Sousa, Lemar White, Kelly Yee, Paige Hoffman, Carlie Fisherow (Staff), Melissa Volpe (Staff)

BOT Attendees: Rob Anderson, Cosabeth Bullock, Liza Douglas, Marcus Hurley, Amy Lee, Quinton Ng, Darren Riley, Wendy Rueda, Jose Sousa, Lemar White, Paige Hoffman, Carlie Fisherow (Staff), Melissa Volpe (Staff)

Guests Present:

Members of Public On Call: Autumn Jackson, Journey Banks-Stewart, Jay Chen (representative of the Parent Association)

Absent (with notes): Kelly Yee

Absent (without notes): Michelle Stuntz

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair White at 9:34 a.m. EST.

The meeting commenced with an overview of the public agenda.

ITEMS REQUIRING VOTING
A motion to approve the August 12th and August 19th minutes as submitted was raised by Jose Sousa and seconded by Amy Lee. The motion passed with all present Trustees voting in favor.

Regular Agenda Items:

Second Site at Kirov

ED Fisherow provided an update on the purchase and acquisition of Kirov as part of a joint venture with Washington Latin, and an overview on the start of the 2022-23 school year. This week, WYY has welcomed more than 600 students to campus, along with their families, and over 150 staff members.

Since August 26th, WYY has made good progress on the Kirov acquisition and are excited to proceed to the closing phase. WYY engaged the WYY parent community in an In Person Townhall, they also worked to ready finances for the wire transfer next week and met with the Growth Committee to discuss creative ideas to expand non PPF revenue streams. Additionally, ED Fisherow worked with Trustee Liza Douglas on the launch of the Development Committee and also met with EdForward about additional fundraising opportunities to support the project.

- Trustee Douglas asked for the board to receive an update on grants. ED Fisherow reviewed the grants to date and shared that she also met with a representative from the Gates Foundation who shared philanthropic opportunities in the city the school might want to consider.

The feasibility studies have identified 3 heritage trees on the property and that all 3 are "not candidates for transplant" and removal has been recommended per Pitchford Associates, individual reports issued on trees #16, 13, 81. WYY is reviewing the new legislation that goes into effect in September and will not impact the project if the proper permitting and approval process is followed. What this means for WYY and site work project consideration is the school must approach removals and relocations in alignment with the new policies. The permitting fees, and removal and relocation fees will still fall within the $2.5M site cost. Next steps entail holding meetings with DDOT, DOEE, and Urban Forestry. The anticipated risk is centered around community pushback, noting that a public hearing will likely be required for the trees.

- Trustee Riley asked clarification as to what we will have to do it with DDOT and DOEE, and the health of the trees. ED Fisherow: We don't believe a relocation is possible because they are unhealthy and relocation, unless it mees criteria, won't work and is not recommended because of the health and the very unlikely success of a relocation.
- Jay Chen asked in anticipation of potential questions from the community – why has the removal been recommended? ED Fisherow: For the new site at Kirov, the plan is to build two new buildings – new construction for Washington Latin and one for Washington Yu Ying and we cannot do the construction we need to with the location of the current proposal of the site.
- Trustee Sousa asked, how many trees are still being preserved? ED Fisherow: We will follow up at the monthly meeting.
- Trustee Sousa noted the perimeter of the second location is lined, and how do we ensure the community understands we will not be seeking to change that. ED Fisherow: We want to preserve as much of the trees and meet the programmatic needs of the school.
- Trustee Douglas shared agreement with Trustee Sousa, we need to focus the preservation of green space.
- Trustee Hurley asked for more information about the public hearing. ED Fisherow: We will need one to remove any trees – we are working on the community engagement plan over the next couple of weeks. We will follow up and share more information.

Affordability Committee

Melissa Volpe gave an update on the affordability committee The second refundable advance Escrow due September 8th. Citybridge is ready to move forward with their commitment and we will reimburse strategic growth account. EdOps is assisting in providing a summary table capturing project costs vs operating analysis and an overview of the financials. We are reevaluating the financial model to look at childcare as something we could expand. LevelField partners well meet with us to talk about current debt, OSSE loan, etc. to ensure everyone is on the same page.

Development Committee

Trustee Douglas provided an update on the launch of the development committee. The committee wrote a charter to be shared with the full board. The Development Committee will create user friendly ways around fundraising and be a driver and idea engine for the school around what we are doing to maximize any sources of revenue outside of per pupil funding.

The committee is also looking to meet monthly and are seeking members. They will report back to the board in regular meetings. Some initial topics of discussion include, what different types of sources and funders can we approach and more foundational questions such as, does the school have a gift acceptance policy – any gifts we won't accept – we need to have policies on what kind of money the school will and won't take. Trustee Bullock shared she will join the committee.

Vote on the Resolution

The Board discussed the resolution: 4301 Harewood Street NE - Second Advance Deposit

and Execution of Purchase and Sale Agreement and Closing Documents.

The Board discussed the resolution which was shared with all board members and reviewed by the growth and governance committees. Trustee Riley requested an addition to the resolution, which would not impact its substance. He requested adding a whereas clause that states the date upon which the Washington Yu Ying Board approved the resolution to authorize the $265K as the first payment to further establish the history and context for the resolution.

Trustee Douglas raised a motion to approve the resolution as amended. The motion was seconded by Trustee Ng. All members present voted in favor of the resolution via roll all. Chair Yee voted by proxy also in favor of the resolution.

Vice Chair White expressed gratitude to ED Fisherow, Trustee Riley, and all of the members of the community for their hard work on the second site acquisition.

Next Steps

ED Fisherow shared the shifts in meeting structures - weekly meetings coming to a close, and Kirov updates will be shared during the monthly meetings as relevant. The school will meet with PCSB in the coming week. The school is also continuing to refine our arrival and dismissal procedures and will continue to meet with neighbors and constituents. It is starting to feel like campus is at vehicle density -f there are few things we can do – shift to carpool and biking and other strategies because we have a large number who drive and limited space.

Trustee Hurley asked how quickly can anyone get possession of Kirov site? Could we use it for staff parking in the short term? ED Fisherow shared that the school will begin to think of ways now to use the site.

CLOSING ITEMS

No new meeting agenda items were introduced.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 EST.