

VMA BOT minutes from 9/11/18

Present: Chris Carle, Alicia Chalmers, TJ Chitekwe, Bill Johnston, Christine Schlesinger and Roberto Villanueva.

From Staff: Neil Phillips, Louis Parker, Cindy Day and Mya Wiedmeyer

Guests: Turk Lewis, Steve Higgins of Carter Group and Miranda Pugh and Janis Barton of School Financial Services (SFS).

Meeting started at 3:05 PM with 30 seconds of silence in tribute to those who died on 9/11/01.

Steve Higgins and Turk Lewis presented a slide show regarding our proposed capital campaign including board involvement, an understanding of charity versus philanthropy and a proposed timeline shortened the campaign to 20 to 24 months in duration. Categories of donors were explained and how the board could help in obtaining gifts from bigger contributors. Questions were asked and answered.

Louis and the two women from SFS presented financials and our positive cash flow. Suggestion that we move some cash to a money market fund to earn some interest was left in the hands of the finance committee. This is a prudent business decision. Salaries were discussed and Neil was most comfortable with them.

Mya Weidmeyer introduced Neil's opportunity offered by the Nantucket Project and our Suns interaction in the event to interview George Bush..

Neil presented charts on iReady which has been a great predictor of our scores. We need to eliminate the lower scores and increase the higher scores to maintain our A (amazing) rating. We also saw an advertisement by iReady of the school...very impressive! We had an update on the summer literacy program which continues to be successful. A long discussion about VPK led to a discussion of recruitment and filling the kindergarten classroom. Success of our 5th grade moving onto other schools was also commented on. Neil told us that Lori White continues to work at the school on a voluntary basis and we cannot thank her enough for the time she has spent with our staff. We heard about the meeting with Fawley Bryant and the need to get a "real" building on our site. An appeal to extend the 5-year plan will be made to county commissioners. Neil ended with an appeal for a long range planning committee. To date, Christine and Bill have signed up for that.

A tired group left the site at a few minutes after 6 PM.