

French and Montessori Education, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting, March 17, 2007
Minutes

The meeting was called by Carlos Zervigon, and was publicized by posted notice at the school, notice on the school website, notice in the Rare Bird newsletter, and notice on the Rare Bird list service.

The meeting was held in the cafeteria at Audubon's Broadway campus, 428 Broadway Ave., New Orleans.

Board members present: Edwin Shorty Jr. (Vice Chairman), Wynn Seeman, Laura Watts (Treasurer & acting secretary for the meeting), and Carlos Zervigon (Chairman)

Ken Ducote – arrived 10:09

Allen Miller – arrived 10:17am

Teddi Locke – arrived 11:19 am

Board members excused: Pierre Lubovics, James Reiss, and Cornelius Tilton

The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am.

Attachments:

Agenda

Minutes for the January 20, 2007 meeting of the Board

Administration report

Budget Committee timeline for 2007/2008 budgeting process

Budget update for 2006-2007

Flyer for 7th annual Charter School Conference in Albuquerque, NM

Item 1, Approval of the January 20, 2007 minutes, was delayed as we did not have a quorum.

Item 2. Administration report – please see attached document.

Ken Ducote arrived during the presentation of the administration report.

Discussion points raised during the Administration report:

Montessori training: Montessori Director, Ellen Selvidge complimented the quality of trainers who will be coming for six weeks this summer for Audubon staff development. She had met several of them at a conference. Wynn Seeman added that, in Montessori circles, the training program we will have is widely recognized as high quality and appropriate to our needs.

Textbooks: Edwin Shorty requested additional information on the middle school textbooks. Janice explained that the 6th and 7th grade classes are now working out of the same book per Montessori curriculum emphasis on three year groupings. As a new text book is being issued next year, investment was not made in additional copies of a soon to be out of print book. So, while each student has a book, when two years are working from the same material, there is sharing of books.

Allen Miller arrived during the discussion of the Administration report.

After-school sports program: Wynn Seeman requested a mission statement from the Metro New Orleans Sports League.

Item 3. Budget Committee report – see section under Administration report as well as relevant attachments.

Return to Item 1 – Approval of the Minutes for Jan. 20, 2007 meeting:

Motion: to approve the minutes: Wynn Seeman

Second: Edwin Shorty

Discussion of the motion: Ken Ducote noted an error in the minutes in the discussion notes at the end of the Administration report: need to delete *mileages* and substitute *1988 Millages* - please see marked copy of minutes attached hereto.

Vote taken to approve minutes with mentioned change.

Motion approved unanimously.

Item 4. Committee work:

Carlos remarked that the Budget Committee is the only one that meets regularly but that other committees were being formed and would be working soon.

Discussion of open meetings laws:

Carlos noted that if members of a committee are meeting to draft policy documents or recommendations to the board, the meeting must be held as a public meeting.

Committees cannot vote as a quorum for the board. Board votes can only take place at meetings of the Board. However, a committee may vote on items to refer or recommend to the Board.

Alisa Dupre made note of a conference in Albuquerque, NM – flyer attached hereto.

Update on admissions: all letters of acceptance have been sent. In the lower grades there were many children waitlisted in both the Montessori and French programs due to the very large number of applications to the school.

Teddi joined the meeting at 11:17 AM.

Item 5. Request for Appeal of Suspension

Motion: Ken Ducote moved that we move into executive session to discuss the matter while providing confidentiality for the student. Edwin seconded the motion. **The motion was passed unanimously.**

The item was discussed in executive session.

The board reconvened in regular session.

Motion: Ken Ducote moved to uphold the suspension. Allen Miller seconded the motion. **The motion was unanimously approved.**

Carlos Zervigon will write to the parents.

Motion: Wynn Seeman moved to adjourn the meeting.
Ken Ducote seconded the motion.
The motion was unanimously approved at 11:40am.