

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS COMMUNITY DISTRICT

BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

January 24, 2017 – 5:30pm
Fisher Building, 3011 W. Grand Blvd.
12th Floor Conference Room
Detroit, MI 48202

MINUTES

Call to Order

The Special Board Meeting of the Board of Education of the Detroit Public Schools Community District was called to order by President Iris Taylor at 5:30pm.

Roll Call

Secretary of the Board, Karen Morgan called the roll:

Present: Deborah Hunter-Harvill, Georgia Lemmons, LaMar Lemmons, *Sonya Mays, Angelique Peterson-Mayberry, Misha Stallworth, and Iris Taylor

There being a quorum present, the meeting was declared in session.

*arrived after roll call

Call for Special Board Meeting

Secretary of the Board Karen Morgan read the following statement:

I, Karen Morgan, Secretary of the Detroit Public Schools Community District Board of Education, do hereby certify that the foregoing Notice of the Special Board of Education Meeting was delivered to each Board of Education Member on Friday, January 20, 2017, pursuant to its applicable statute.

Approval of the Agenda

Secretary Stallworth moved for the approval of the agenda.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry seconded

Motion carried unanimously

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Approval of the Minutes - January 11, 2017 5:00pm

Member L. Lemmons moved for the approval of the minutes

Member Hunter-Harvill seconded

Motion carried unanimously

January 11, 2017 6:00pm

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry moved for the approval of the minutes

Member L. Lemmons stated he was just in receipt of the minutes. Also stated for the record he needed to be notified because he is not a person who just constantly checks emails but if he knows something is there he will just go look for it otherwise he doesn't know it was there.

Member Hunter-Harvill stated she remembered the minutes were emailed because she had a chance to look over them although she did not send this comment back particularly on page 8.

Member L. Lemmons stated for the purpose of discussion he seconded the motion.

Member Hunter-Harvill noted page 8 stated when there was a discussion about out-of-state travel she recalled someone asked a very important question about how we were funding.

President Taylor stated someone had mentioned grant dollars. It says reimbursement request of professional development grant funded and Michigan Department of Education.

Member Hunter-Harvill stated does that mean all of these conferences are Grant funded or are some of them out of the General fund.

Member L. Lemmons stated under PA 192-197 that all out-of-state travel requires the approval of the Financial Review Commission (FRC) and thus we could not approve anything so there had to be external funds to do this without their approval if I am correct.

Marios Demetriou, Deputy Superintendent of Finance and Operations, stated for out-of-state travel that involves any school District funds whether it is grants or general funds must be approved by the FRC. The travel that was submitted part of it was from Grants and part of it was from General fund.

President Taylor stated that we need to identify in the minutes which is which.

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Nekeya Irby, Senior Executive Director, Curriculum stated it appears from looking at the list that all were Grant funded.

Mr. Demetriou stated he had the list and would send it to Board Secretary.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry asked what the process for out-of-state travel is. If the Board needs to approve it what is the time frame and has it been vetted by their superiors and has it come through Alycia.

Mr. Demetriou stated the packet that was submitted to the Board identified if it was a grant, who approved it, depending on the grant it may need approval from the Michigan Department of Education, if it is general fund it is approved by the highest level in the department. Academics is approved by Nekeya, finance is approved by me and we list what the conference is, and explain the rationale. We can do that in the future if that is what the Board requires.

Member L. Lemmons withdrew his contingency and moved to adopt the minutes as presented and contend with the disparities at a later date.

Motion carried unanimously

January 11, 2017 – Closed Session

Member L. Lemmons stated the minutes were premature because it did not include what he thought was key information from the CFO identifying the Trustee of DPS Old co.

Vice President Peterson-Mayberry stated is it noted that it would be presented in February if not then the minutes are just capturing what was said in the meeting.

Treasurer Mays asked if there could be clarification for discussion of minutes of Closed Session.

President Taylor referred to Counsel.

Counsel stated it would be best to discuss these minutes when we go back into Closed Session. Any discussion of the meeting in Closed Session should be discussed in Closed Session

President Taylor deferred any further discussion.

Member L. Lemmons moved to go into Closed Session

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Member Hunter-Harvill seconded

Member L. Lemmons stated in a normal procedure that the Secretary always recite... in my mind there is a nebulous blur between custom and tradition what is actually legal and what is moral sometimes it becomes a blur. I am stating for the record that historically as a seven-year Board member they would always recite that provision of the law that would allow us to go into Closed Session and the reason for it.

President Taylor stated we have it listed but asked Counsel is there a process before going into Closed Session that says it should be read publicly.

Counsel stated the purpose of the Closed Session is listed on the agenda however it would be helpful to state it in the open meeting so everybody would know just in case you didn't have an agenda.

President Taylor read:

Closed Session pursuant to MCL 15.268 Sec. 8 (e) and (h) to discuss pending litigation and consider material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal statute (attorney client privileged communication).

Roll Call vote called for Closed Session

Majority vote received to move into Closed Session

Meeting moved to Closed Session at 5:51p.m.

Members returned from Closed Session at 9:01

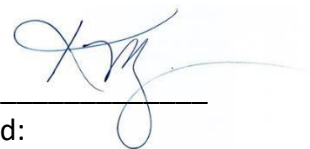
Public Comments

There were no public comments

Adjournment

Member Lemmons moved for adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm



Certified:
Karen Morgan, B.S.B.M
Secretary of the Board