

University Prep Board Meeting – 12/12/22

Minutes

7:04 – 7:36 AM

Call to Order: Kimberlee Sia called Meeting to order

Board Attendance: Cuneyt Akay, Bev Sloan, Emily Eikelberner, Nicholas Martinez, Kimberlee Sia, Recardo Brooks and Tracey Lovett (*All remote*)

Board Absence: Juan Pena & Brenna Copeland

Staff Attendance: David Singer (Executive Director), Alastair Dawe (COO), and Liz Suarez (CAO)

Minutes Approval: Minutes for the October Board Mtg. and November Board Retreat were approved unanimously by the board. Recardo Brooks motioned the approval, which was seconded by Nicholas Martinez.

The meeting launched with an Introductory whip around where everyone had a chance to share what's going on in their lives and re-connect with one another.

Resolution re. FAMLI:

The board discussed a resolution to opt out of the Family Medical Leave Insurance program. As part of that conversation the board was informed that the act and its accompanying coverage would create an additional wage garnishment for employees representing .45% of salary and an equal amount being covered by U Prep. Moreover, it was discussed that as a governmental entity, the organization had the opportunity to opt out of the legislation. Most importantly, the discussion centered on the current benefits afforded to U Prep employees and their robust nature that goes beyond what the FAMLI legislation provides. Lastly, and before voting, the board was informed that public comment had been invited via in-person and written responses and the legislation was shared transparently with all staff. Bev Sloan motioned to approve the resolution opting out of the FAMLI program and Recardo Brooks provided a second. The motion was passed unanimously.

Resolution re. Merging Entities:

This portion of new business involved the board discussing the benefits of merging the existing three, unique non-profit entities into one. Currently, the Arapahoe St. campus, Steele St. campus and Central Office all operate as individual 501c3's with one board overseeing all of them. In discussion, COO Al Dawe explained the convoluted processes created with payroll as a result of the current composition and the recommendation by legal counsel and external financial support services to consolidate the entities. Ultimately, having one non-profit entity while maintaining unique accounts for the purpose of financial oversight and accounting leads to greater efficiency. Tracey Lovett moved to approve the resolution with Bev Sloan providing a second to the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor of consolidating the three unique entities into one 501c3.

Updates:

David Singer, Executive Director, provided a few updates regarding the upcoming charter renewal process within DPS for the Arapahoe St. campus, expected outcomes (and the process) aligned to the upcoming State Board hearing regarding Adams 14's decision to deny the charter contract, and information regarding fund development including a newly secured grant from the Gates Family Foundation.

Celebration for Tracey Lovett:

Given the more than a decade of incredible service and commitment to the organization, Tracey Lovett was honored with gifts and praise as she concluded her final board meeting. Ms. Lovett, as a founding U Prep board member from the fall of 2011, was scheduled to roll of the board (term limited) in Dec. 2022.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 AM