

Scattergood Friends School
School Committee Meeting
Open Session Proposed Minutes
5 May 2018

Mission Statement

Scattergood Friends School challenges students with a college-preparatory curriculum, farm experience, a shared work program, and community living in the spirit of Quaker faith.

Present: Debbie Galusha, Ann Robinson, Phil Henderson, Dan Schlitt, Katherine Young, Ruth Hampton (clerk), Roy Helm, Russ Leckband, Lucy Marsh, Rebecca Bergus, Bob Winkleblack, Bob Winchell, Læel Gatewood, Karen Greenler

Regrets: Gail Nelson, Tom Wahl, Kent Tjossem

Staff Present: Thomas Weber, Tim Schulte, Jenn Jansen, Miranda Nielson, Kim Jones, Amy Weber, Gabriella Delgadillo

Friends settled into silent worship in a timely manner. The clerk read a message:

“It may be hard for an egg to turn into a bird: it would be a jolly sight harder for it to learn to fly while remaining an egg. We are like eggs at present. And you cannot go on indefinitely being just an ordinary, decent egg. We must be hatched or go bad.”

~ C. S. Lewis

Minute: We approve the open and closed minutes of our meeting on March 17, 2018.

The Admissions Subcommittee reported that we are already at 23 students for next year. We will have no new international students because visas continue to be denied. The Facilities Subcommittee shared its ongoing discussions about what to do with the remainder of the Don Laughlin Memorial monies. Appreciation was shared for the new dining room floor which was installed by the senior class, and gratitude was expressed to Tim Schulte for his management and guidance of the project.

Minute: We approve the \$30,000 budget for capital expenditures for the 2018-2019 fiscal year as listed in the May 2018 Facilities Subcommittee Report.

Farm reported that chestnut tree planting on the farm will begin this year between now and early June and will continue over the full eight acres in subsequent years. The Development subcommittee is hopeful they will raise the \$27,000 needed to reach the Annual Fund final target of \$285,000. They expressed their appreciation for all the relationship building Thomas and Ruth have done. The office is working on an Arts Reunion plan for 2019 that will hopefully appeal to a wider range of alumni, and on revitalizing the Planned Giving program. The office frequently sends posts of stories and pictures and the School Committee is encouraged to use these stories when discussing the school with the wider community. A suggestion was raised that we translate our Annual Report and Appeal so we can send to alumni in different countries. The Spiritual and Community Life subcommittee have been discussing the two new programs and what impact on the community integrating additional older and younger students may present. Work continues with rising seniors as they move into leadership roles in the community.

The Academic subcommittee relayed that the members of the senior class have all been accepted to college and most are off to Macalester College in Minnesota, Earlham College in Indiana, and Hampshire College in Massachusetts. Together, they were offered nearly \$1,000,000 in scholarship aid. Discussion continues about how to use the academic program for recruitment and development, including how to give the public a window into the independent projects. The School Committee expressed its gratitude for the work Gabriella has done in her time at the school in both the academic and residential realms. Her work increased the levels of integration of the academic program that shepherded the evolution of the farm academic program, encouraged the use of Google Classroom for ease of management, and increased peer-to-peer interactions outside of the classroom resulting in more academic student success. The independent study programs she built allowed students to demonstrate their writing, researching, and creative abilities. These projects gave students frameworks they can use as they move into their post-Scattergood lives. We will miss her integrity, deep sense of humanity, and belief in the abilities of all students.

The Consultation and Finance subcommittee reported we will have a significantly lower shortfall than was previously expected, the lowest in several years despite the low enrollment, thanks to a generous one-time payout from the Foundation and the change of payout structure in the Foundation's Westwood #2 account. We are also grateful for the school's careful management of funds throughout the year. Without changes we will continue to see major shortfall in years to come.

Minute: We accept the Operating Statement as of 26 April 2018 with minor corrections.

Thomas reported that the 2018-2019 budget is still in development. It will be sent via email, along with a summary of changes, for approval by the School Committee. He noted that next year's tuition will be the same as the 2017-18 school year. He updated us on the progress of the middle school and red shirt programs. Regular meetings with Thomas, Dana Foster and an administrator with experience in progressive middle school education continue. They are working on plans to communicate about opening the middle school that would help the process for fundraising and admissions. The maximum capacity of the middle school will be about 15 students. Curriculum development (writing, math, and leadership development) for the red shirt program is being funded by Grinnell and worked on by Sam Taylor. Grinnell and Scattergood will work together to mentor and support these students in the transition between high school and college. At this point the capacity for the red shirt program will be about six students. Budget projections will include these two programs to provide context for decision-making.

We heard from the seniors who shared their plans for the future and their gratitude for the Scattergood community.

Thomas is planning for a robust faculty orientation this August including extended training on sexual harassment awareness. Thomas shared his hopes for the faculty leaving Scattergood this summer, they will be missed. We extend our gratitude and wish them all the best as they start their next chapters.

Ruth brought forth a suggestion that we develop a parent grievance policy. She and Debbie Galusha will work on that.

The clerk adjourned the open meeting to proceed into closed session.

Respectfully submitted,
Katherine Young, recording clerk

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 24 at 11:00 a.m.