

# Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 31, 2022



## In Attendance:

### Board Members:

- Sharrell Howard, Board Chair (SH)
- Crystal Howe, Board Vice Chair (CH)
- Shauntay Cloud, Board Treasurer (SC)
- Erin Howe, Board Member (EH)
- Jeff Rhodes, Board Member (JR)

### Guests:

- Janel Bocus

## Absent:

### Board Members:

- LaDiedra Matthews, Board Secretary (LM)
- Diamond Howell-Shields, Board Member (DHS)
- Geri Taylor Brown, Board Member (GTB)

## Minutes:

SH called the meeting to order at 6:48 PM.

### 1. Recitation of Mission & Ethics Statement

EH read the vision, mission, and ethics statement and noted that "Great Opportunity, Inc." should be changed to "The G.O. B.I.G. Foundation."

### 2. Approval of the Minutes from the April 26, 2022 Meeting

- CH moved to approve the April 26, 2022, meeting minutes.
- EH seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

### 3. Approval of Agenda for May 31, 2022

- SH presented the agenda. SH made a motion to remove the first agenda item regarding CSP services because no representative from CSP was present.
- CH seconded the motion. The motion was approved by all.
- EH moved to approve the minutes as amended.

- SC seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

#### **4. Public Comment**

No public comment was presented.

#### **5. Current Committees & Roles**

SH gave an overview of the committees and members.

#### **6. Working Session**

- EH provided an overview of the current status of our facility search.
  - We are currently looking for a facility option for 2023 that can accommodate 300 students.
  - Myers Park Baptist and CPCC are not available.
  - Performance Charter Development would like for us to have completed a year of operation successfully before they are willing to contract with our organization.
  - We have not yet connected with Schoolhouse Development.
- CH gave an overview of the need for family engagement and student enrollment. She noted that the goal for the board is to have at least one event monthly to support recruitment goals.
- SH placed board members into two breakout groups to address and plan around these topics.

#### **Breakout Session Reports:**

##### **Event Planning**

- Alternating Monthly Virtual/In-Person Information Sessions
  - Our Core Values
  - Our House System
  - Why All-Girls Education Makes a Difference
  - G.O. B.I.G. in Kindergarten!
  - G.O. B.I.G. with the K-2 Curriculum
  - Girls in STEM - A Focus on Science
  - Girls in STEM - A Focus on Technology
  - Girls in STEM - A Focus on Engineering
  - Girls in STEM - A Focus on Mathematics
  - Hands-On STEM Night
- Work with community partners to host in person events.
  - Daycares

- Churches (Myers Baptist?)
- Can we incentivize parent attendance using gifts (e.g. cruise trip, giveaways, etc.)?
  - For example, every time parents attend, they could earn a raffle ticket.
  - We could ask businesses to donate items. (We need to verify that such giveaways are permitted for charter schools.)
  - We could also donate G.O. B.I.G. swag, STEM kits, back-to-school packs, etc.
  - Another idea is to partner with local girls' STEM programs to gift a free week's attendance or yearlong membership, etc.
- Use the attendance data to help track which aspects of the STEM curriculum garner the most interest and respond accordingly.
- Have food available so that families and kids do not have to worry about dinner when attending our events.
- Have a kids zone with community service volunteers (e.g. college organizations (e.g. JCSU), community service organizations (e.g., City Year, biker groups), fraternities, sororities (e.g., Gamma Phi Delta), etc.) that can run age-appropriate STEM activities for the kids while parents attend the event.

### **Facility Planning**

Sharrell Howard, Erin Howe, & Shauntay Cloud

- Myers & Chapman (Still Need Funding)
- Arcadia(Still Need Funding)
- Performance (Need a Year of Proof)
- Truist - could Potentially Fund
- Pinnacle - an option for the bank account
- Highmark School Development
  - A. <http://www.highmarkschools.com/state/north-carolina/>
  - B. Bradford Preparatory Charlotte, NC
- Charter School Lenders Coalition
  - A. <https://www.charterlenders.org/about/members/>
  - B. KIPP Charlotte

- Self-Help Credit Union
  - A. <https://www.self-help.org/business/loans/all-business-loans/charter-school-loans>
  - B. Sugar Creek Charter School
- ~~Red Apple Development~~ — NOT RECOMMENDED
  - A. ~~<http://www.redappledevelopment.com/our-schools/#>~~
  - B. ~~Steele Creek Preparatory Academy~~
  - C. ~~Cabarrus Charter Academy~~
- LISC National
  - A. <https://www.lisc.org/charter-schools/understanding-your-needs/>
- <https://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/construction/facilityplanning/Pages/PID-09109801---Anderson-Street-Surplus.aspx>
- <https://www.cms.k12.nc.us/cmsdepartments/construction/facilityplanning/Pages/PID-06509119---Kalyne-Street-Surplus.aspx>
- How do we verify?
  - A. Unused District Facilities for Lease
  - B. **More information** North Carolina statutes stipulate that at the request of a charter school, the local board of education of the local school administrative unit in which the charter school resides must lease any available building or land to the charter school, unless the board can demonstrate that the lease is not economically or practically feasible or that the local board does not have adequate classroom space to meet the school's enrollment needs. If the charter school and local board of education are unable to reach an agreement, the charter school has the right to appeal to the board of county commissioners in which the building or land is located. This board has final decision-making authority.

## 7. Upcoming Events

- SH, EH, & CH will be attending on June 8 & 9 - New Charter Leaders Institute.
- New Leaders Dinner Office of Charter Schools
- SH, EH, CH, & SC will meet with CSP to go over the RTO timeline on June 15th from 2-3 PM.

## **8. Reminders: Board Recruitment, RTO Process, Committees**

- SH reminded the board that any Recommendations for new board members or school staff applicants should submit an application on [CSP WEBSITE](#) and be sure to note GO BIG somewhere in the application.
- SH noted that we will have an outline and assignments for the RTO process at the next board meeting.
- We will confirm committee meeting times in an email to SH by Friday, June 10th.
  - Personnel Committee
  - Facility Committee
  - Finance Committee
  - Academic Excellence
- SH noted that each committee should have a report/update to share for the next board meeting.
- EH pushed for us to open a bank account by next Friday.
- CH moved to adjourn the meeting. EH seconded. The motion was approved.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.