



Mountainville Academy

Board Meeting Minutes

March 21st, 2024

Notice is hereby given that the Mountainville Academy Board of Trustees will hold a Board Meeting and Executive Session at 195 S Main Street, Alpine, UT on Thursday, March 21st, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

In attendance: Janese Vance, Wayne Sleight, Stephanie Cotton-Betteridge, Mikelle Kennedy, Tanya Colledge Chandler Weeks, Kevin Anglesey, Paxton Gray, Marisa Skousen, Nate Adams

Kari Barney – entered at 7:28

BOARD MEETING

1. WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER - Marisa called it at 7:02

1. Reverent Remarks by Tanya
2. Pledge of Allegiance

2. PUBLIC COMMENT - In attendance Ardice Lorscheider, Juliette Ensign, Kristin Hagen, Katie Burton, Bob Hansen

Juliette –

She previously met with the board of the group, Friends of the Alpine City Library, and presented a private funding offer to purchase the Carlisle Property. While Juliette believed the offer was genuine, it was subsequently rescinded. Juliette said she does not know of the reasons why the offer was rescinded.

Juliette mentioned that while the offer falling through was a setback, it forced them to explore other options. They believe they have a better path forward now and are working with a large coalition of people to achieve their goals.

Juliette also expressed that they had good intentions, and their priority remains the benefit of the community and the school. They will continue to advocate for the school and build positive relationships within the community.

Kristin Haigen –

Introduced herself as an executive director and communication director with Friends of the Alpine City Library speaking on behalf of the organization here tonight.

In light of the private funding recission, Friends of the Alpine City Library developed a new approach to raise money to purchase the Carlisle Property. They coordinated a plan forward with a professional fundraiser and opened fundraising efforts to the public. As a result, they now raised \$218,000.

As part of the outreach approach, the group contacted the mayor, Sons of Utah Pioneers (who manage the Provo Pioneer Village), and the Senate.

They've also coordinated a restricted grant that could be used by Alpine City to purchase the Carlisle Property from Mountainville and later restore the Carlisle House as the Children's Library site.

Kristin further highlighted the proactive approach they are taking by meeting with the city administrator and council members. They've been invited to present an updated report to the Alpine City Council next Tuesday during the Council meeting.

Given these developments, Kristin requests additional time to finalize the plan with the Alpine City Council following the meeting scheduled for the coming Tuesday.

Katie Burton –

Introduced herself, representing the Alpine Art Center and the Heritage Foundation. Representing also Mr. Dennis Smith, a lifelong resident of Alpine and local artist. Katie expressed that Mr. Smith is 82 years old, looking to leave a legacy and his dream is to have a sculpture park dedicated to him in Alpine.

They proposed the sculpture park be located in front of the Alpine Children's Library, near the Carlisle House, which Mr. Smith has painted in the past.

Katie believes the park will be a great addition to Alpine, a good art companion to the school's science focus. They are confident they can raise the funds for the project and collaborate with the board to make the park a reality.

Bob Hansen –

Introduced himself as 35 year-fundraising professional. He too supports the overall stated project and believes it's doable. Bob presented a proposal for a fundraising event to benefit the school.

In sum, the proposal outlined the school put on a fundraising event to be hosted by Jay Elliott, mentor to Steve Jobs. The guest list would include ten top tech CEOs from Utah for a private gathering with Mr. Elliott. Each CEO would contribute \$10,000 to attend.

A majority of the proceeds would go to the Academy, with a smaller portion given to Mr. Elliott. No direct solicitation would occur. It would offer the school the opportunity to raise awareness and interest for future donations.

Bob is confident this event presents a significant opportunity and hopes the board will consider it.

Public Comment is time for the public to give input to the board but is not a discussion time. Comments are limited to 1-2 minutes per individual. Individuals wishing to make a longer presentation to the board may request placement on the agenda by contacting the board secretary or chairman. Administrative items, those regarding the day-to-day operation of the school, may be referred to the school director for resolution. Individuals who have previously met with the school director and still have concerns should feel free to participate in the public comment portion of the meeting.

3. BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT – Nate presented the monthly budget. Introduced the forecasted budget and projected revenue.

Local revenues are exceeding forecasts due to rising interest rates. Nate will adjust the budget to reflect this increase. State and federal revenue figures are not yet finalized. Expenses are generally under control, except for lawn care and snow removal costs due to the need for additional equipment. Nate will show the adjustments in the budget to account for this. The school has budgeted for potential projects with a contingency line of \$150,000, a \$50,000 project line item, and \$36,000 for land and site improvements.

The safety grant the school applied for has been awarded but not yet received. Once reimbursed, it will improve the bottom line. The current surplus is estimated at \$600,000. Looking ahead to next year's budget, the state has provided a 5% increase in WPU funding and a \$192 increase in local replacement funding. This will allow for additional staffing and compensation increases. The final budget will be presented to the Finance Committee and the board in May for approval. Marisa asked about the school safety grant – have not asked about the reimbursable grant yet which will increase the budget.

For next year – legislative session ended with a 5% bump on WEU another 5% ... for compensation Janese will present this new budget for additional compensation to the teachers next year. Next year, the bumps will be helpful because we are still relying on some of the remaining budget allocations for the middle school.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes 2.15. 2024 – Marisa moved to approved, Chandler seconded the motion

Ayes

Wayne
Tanya
Kevin
Chandler
Mikelle
Stephanie
Paxton
Marisa

Nays

None

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Board Training - Utah Association of Public Charter Schools – Trust Lands Grant Overview - <https://www.utahcharters.org/training-videos> - conducted the training with all present.

- B. Director’s Report – Janese announced Leadership Day will be held on tomorrow, March 22nd, for different grade levels. The fundraiser is complete.

The school is nearing the end of the third term and is staffing for next year. There are a few positions that still need to be filled. Work is underway on school safety improvements, including installing cameras in classrooms and hallways.

School tours are going well and there are waitlists for most grades, except preschool. There is some discussion about whether a change to afternoon pickup times has impacted preschool enrollment. Kindergarten is experiencing a waitlist for half-day enrollment, which is surprising because there wasn't much interest in the past for half-day compared to full day kindergarten classes.

Kindergarten director thinks it might be due to carpooling where some parents have to come back to school for their older students.

- C. Committee Reports

i. Executive – met to plan the agenda for the board meeting. Discussed the state legislative summary’s new requirement to have three designated people as guardians for school safety. The committee debated whether to include this in the school policy. The new law requires schools to have security features like security films or ballistic windows. There is no funding provided by the state to cover these costs.

Will need to move the meeting to another day to April 25th rather than on the 18th.

ii. Academic Excellence – did not meet this morning. No matter to discuss.

iii. Finance - Kevin touched on the new interest account and the committee’s future plans for Discussed other projects expenditure such as painting, new flooring...

Wayne – a few months ago finance wanted to plan for projects 5 years in advance and produce a plan on how much to plan for projects. If there’s a way to project the expenses for the next 20-30 years such as expenses for the new projected STEM building.

Nate mentioned he worked with a company in the past that specializes in feasibility studies for finances in new buildings. This could help determine future expenses and how much the school can afford by looking into the reserve and savings account.

iv. Development – fundraising nights – this month was Costa Vida. The school raised about \$2,500 this year so far out of the restaurants’ fundraisings.

Main fundraiser: the school raised close to \$30,000 - the most we've ever brought in. Meeting tomorrow to discuss placing advertisements on the school fence for our business fundraiser. This initiative has the potential to raise an additional \$10,000 or more.

Will also hold the school 5K race (May the 4th) fundraiser that might help raise our \$50,000 overall goal for school safety.

v. Governance - met and discussed the Camera policy update – erased one line from the policy connected to sound to the video feed. At the next meeting, they will discuss the new guardian policy requirement from the state legislature.

vi. Technology- doing ok. Paxton asked if they need parents on the committee. Kevin and Paxton are the only two members.

vii. FSO – met today about Grandparents Day coming up April 26th. Need to stagger the event by student's last names due to parking. A-L then L-Z. The theme this year is “Oh the Places You’ll Go.” They will plan crafts for grandparents like magnets, silly interview questions, whimsically family quest, craft airplanes... This year, parents will oversee committees for FSO delegation.

April 16th –Battle of the Books Event - whomever knows the most about the different books they’ve read throughout the year will win.

Teacher appreciation day – did not happen or was rescheduled to May during international appreciation day. Camilla will return next year as vice- chair. The committee has a great number of parents interested in joining (5 or more).

D. School Land Trust 2024-25 – Final – brief discussion

E. Legislative Summary

F. Security Camera System Policy

6. ACTION ITEMS

A. School Land Trust 2024-25 – Final. Marisa moved to approve the School Land Trust 2024-25. Mikelle seconded.

Ayes

Wayne
Tanya
Kevin
Chandler
Mikelle
Stephanie
Paxton
Marisa
Kari

Nays

None

B. Security Camera System Policy Marisa moved to approve the Security Camera System Policy as presented. Chandler seconded.

Ayes

Wayne
Tanya
Kevin
Chandler
Mikelle
Stephanie
Paxton
Marisa
Kari

Nays

None

7. CLOSED/EXECUTIVE SESSION Marisa moved to go into closed session to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property for the school. Chandler seconded – at 8:05.

Ayes

Wayne
Tanya
Kevin
Chandler
Mikelle
Stephanie
Paxton
Marisa
Kari

Nays

None

The Board will consider a motion to close the meeting to hold a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation, and/or to discuss the purchase, exchange, or lease of real property, and/or the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual in conformance with § 52-4-204 and 52-4-205 et. seq., Utah Code Ann.

Came out of closed session at 9:01.

8. ACTION ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

9. ADJOURN Marisa adjourned at 9:01.

The public is welcome to attend Mountainville Academy Board Meetings. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, those needing special assistance or accommodations should contact the secretary at sbetteridge@malions.org, giving at least one working day notice.