



Meeting Minutes for Public Meeting of the Odyssey Board of Directors

Date: April 8, 2020

Location: Zoom and teleconference

- To join the Zoom Meeting, click [here](#)
- **Meeting ID:** 988 7780 5089
- **Password:** 2020
- One tap mobile
- +16465588656,,98877805089#,,2020# US (New York)
- +13126266799,,98877805089#,,2020# US (Chicago)

In Attendance: President Elias Rigas (ER) Treasurer George Hantzandreu (GH), Anamaria Anagnostou (AA), Erin Allard (EA), Rodrigo Torres (RT), Alisa Moen (AM), Sandra Johnson (SJ), Eva Jannelli (EJ)

Minutes Taken By: AM

Start Time: 6:00 PM

Agenda¹

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Standard Order of Business

- Covid-19 update, safety and CDC guidelines compliance
- Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes
 - Motion to approve February 19 Board Minutes: AA – 1st, AM – 2nd, All in Favor, Approved
 - Motion to approve February 27 Board Minutes: EA – 1st, EJ – 2nd, All in Favor, Approved
 - Motion to approve March 31, 2020 Board Minutes from Executive Session, EA – 1st, AM – 2nd, All in favor – approved.
- Public Comments
 - Head of PTO, report on funding and pave the way fundraiser
 - Mike Roussos – strong urging to the Board that any new initiatives stay in alignment with the mission of the school
 - Maryann Yarram – grateful to be part of the Odyssey community during this difficult time; ACE students are continuing on their projects.
- Monthly Financial Review - Presented by Karen Thorpe (**Feb and March reports review w web reports to be approved 4/16**)
- School Report -
 - Greek Program report - Presented by Dr. Marina – Greek distance learning materials are being accumulated on google drive and will be available anytime for

¹ All agenda items are potential action items for which a vote may be taken.



- independent review and study; great effort by all to stay in teaching mode and delivering new instruction remotely.
- Stephanie Beckel – report on 2020/21 Academic calendar **to be approved by the Board 4/16** and submitted to the DOE
 - Ashley Lipson – positive comments on quick transition to remote learning; not without challenges but remarkable effort by the teachers.
 - Campus Operations Officer report – Presented by Riccardo Stoeckicht
 1. Work on advancing two Bid Packets:
 - a. Building 23 and
 - b. Large Gym
 2. IT is working on delivering devices and assisting w Tech needs to support students and families
 - Citizens Budget Oversight Committee report (None)
 - Faculty report from Board representative: EJ report on staff and teachers, Level 3 is moving ahead and working on transitioning; everyone is working as a team and being supportive of each other.
 - PTO report from Board representative (None)
 - Board officer nomination – Alisa Moen nominated as Board secretary; so moved (ER), second (EA), Motion passed unanimously.
 - Compliance Committee Report
 - Update on CSAC meetings and current probation conditions satisfaction
 - New Business
 - Discussion of future facility improvements - done in Campus Operations Report point 1; report on process to RFP for a position of CM – moved to authorize RFP process and recommendation to the Executive Committee of the Board on final choice. Construction team is RS, TB, MR, JS (with legal assistance of AM as needed).
 - NANC update, interviews to be conducted next week with recommendations likely made at the next board meeting.

4. Board's report on Head of School Leadership Transition:

It is the Board's fundamental responsibility to position Odyssey Charter School for long term success – today, tomorrow, and into the future. Crucially, it is paramount in ensuring that Odyssey has leadership in place to guide the school and its community through the coming chapters of growth while delivering strong academic performance, appropriately providing support services, fostering an inclusive community, attracting diverse faculty candidates and creating a campus with facilities that support the enrichment of all students.

Following discussions in recent Executive Sessions, the Board has determined that Odyssey's next chapter necessitates new leadership at the Head of School level.

Motion not to renew Co-Heads of School contracts – AM -1st, EA – 2nd, all in favor – passed unanimously.



While the Board's vote took place in public, this is a personnel matter and the Board will not comment publicly on factors discussed during the Executive Sessions. While these Board decisions may be questioned by some within our community, they were difficult and are impactful for the individuals involved as well as our School and the community we serve. Please be respectful in any discourse about them.

Change is never easy. The Board did not arrive at these decisions lightly – but in order to fulfill our mandate and our duty to best position Odyssey for ongoing success, we have unanimously determined that these steps are necessary and appropriate.

The Board has communicated its decisions to Ms. Parks and Mr. Stoeckicht earlier today, and discussed how best to cooperatively move forward in the best interests of Odyssey, our students and our community.

With respect to the Co-Head of School responsible for academic leadership - The Board has voted to form a Search Committee and engage an outside search firm to help identify our next academic leader who can capitalize on Odyssey's successes to date, and guide our school forward to the next level of academic achievement. To ensure inclusion of stakeholders representing our diverse community, the Board intends for the committee composition to include parents, teachers (including our school's union leadership), administration, board members and, will, likely, invite external expertise.

We sincerely thank Ms. Parks for her many years of service and dedication to Odyssey. We wish her well in future endeavors, and will support her in this transition. We very much appreciate Ms. Parks' partnership and continued focus on Odyssey's students, teachers, and community.

Our Odyssey community has consistently demonstrated tremendous dedication to our children, especially through innovating in this challenging remote learning environment. The Board firmly believes that it is critical to continue to support each other. The intent is to select and onboard our next Head of School prior to the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year. The Board will immediately begin to work with our leadership team to determine the best candidate to serve as an Interim Head of School. In order to ensure a smooth transition and continued administrative guidance and support, the transition team will include the Deans and Board members to promptly address our teachers' and students' administrative needs.

With respect to the Co-Head of School/Campus Operations Officer role - Mr. Stoeckicht will continue in his role as head of operations through the end of his current contract term on July 1, 2020 and on an ongoing basis while the Board resolves its Head of School search and determines the leadership structure that will best support the school's operational, campus, and ongoing development needs. We thank Mr. Stoeckicht for his contributions and dedication to Odyssey, and appreciate his ongoing support to ensure operational continuity and leadership for our school and our campus.

We will continue to openly communicate with our community as this process moves forward. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us with suggestions, concerns, and interest in participating in this process as we move forward. Thank you for your continued support.

7:33pm Motion to Adjourn (AA) -1st, GH – 2nd, all in favor – approved.



Odyssey Charter School
Nurturing a Lifelong Love of Learning

Denise Parks – Head of School
Riccardo Stoeckicht – Campus Operations Officer



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