

**Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Governor Baxter School for the Deaf
School Board Meeting
Falmouth, Maine
January 5, 2017**

Board Present: Diane St. Lawrence, Joan Toy (Vice Chair), Jason White, Laurel Kelly, Frances Frost, David Gaul, Debbie Camire, Michelle Ames, Roxanne Baker, Samantha Hebert

Board Excused: Taylor Gagnon, Don Miller, John Shattuck, Fran Jacques

Administration: David Sherry, John Jones, Traci Drake, Karen Hopkins, Angie Bruno

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Roxanne Baker shared her experiences at a recent Lead K fundraiser she attended in California. Roxanne Baker will attend the January 8 Deaf Community Forum to give an update on the Executive Director search. Roxanne shared that there is a documentary film about a family of a Deaf child that she would like the Board to view.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

IV. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA: Joan Toy motioned to add an agenda item to discuss opening a bank account. Frances Frost seconded.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 opposed

V. BOARD NORMS: Board norms were reviewed:

- Be on time.
- Follow the agenda as much as possible.
- Only one person at a time should speak.
- Raise your hand when you have something to say.
- Use the microphone when you speak.
- Minimize side conversations.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 1, 2016

Joan Toy motioned to approve the minutes of December 1, 2016 as amended. Debbie Camire seconded.

Vote: 6 in favor 0 opposed 4 abstentions (Samantha Hebert, Michelle Ames, Roxanne Baker, Diane St. Lawrence)

VII. REVIEW OF CERTIFIED EMPLOYEES, CONTRACT AND

PROBATIONARY TEACHERS, OTHER: Four MECDHH staff members are moving from first to second year on probation: Denise Adams, Christy Callahan, Katherine Carmina and Pam Lovejoy. Questions were answered. David Gaul motioned to approve the Executive Director’s recommendation for 3 year probationary teachers to move to continuing contract. Joan Toy seconded.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 opposed

VIII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

- A final meeting with George Burns, the pro bono attorney from Bernstein, Shur Law Group, will be held to continue discussions with the merger with The Foundation.
- Two resignations were received, one from maintenance staff person Andrew Hopkins and the other from Lisa Sorenson from ACT.
- A meeting will be held on January 25 with Jan Breton who is both the State Special Education Director and Acting Director of Child Development Services along with two other members of Child Development Services to brainstorm where we are as a school and funding.
- David is working to set up a meeting with the new commissioner to review programs and services and where we are headed as an organization.
- A different format will be used at the Deaf Community Forum

Other key points of the Executive Director’s Report were covered. A copy is enclosed in the Executive Director’s office.

IX. NEW BANK ACCOUNT: Joan Toy motioned that the Board authorize the Business and Operations Manager to open an account earmarked exclusively for the museum. Roxanne Baker seconded.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 opposed

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Strategic Planning Committee met to discuss the strategic plan of July 1, 2017 to June 20, 2022. A draft was put together and the group will meet again to develop a final version. The committee would like to conduct a survey to include: parents, students, and former graduates to be conducted in ASL. The Executive Director Search Committee met after the Board meeting to schedule their next meeting.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Joan Toy motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:17PM. Michelle Ames seconded.

Vote: 10 in favor 0 opposed

The meeting was adjourned at **6:17PM**.

Board Approved: February 2, 2017