



Granite State Arts Academy

Board of Trustees Meeting

May 18, 2021 -- 6pm @ GSAA via Zoom

Public Invited via Zoom Link

Attendance: Don Erdbrink, Lisa Peterson, Christine Caron, Frank Sharlow, Renia Friend, Jeff Trout, Jeff Marquis, Chris Michaud, Mary Jo Conlon, Jaime McFarland

Guest: Melinda Henneberry

Called to order: 6:07pm.

Public Comment

- None

Approval of Minutes from Last meeting

- Jeff Trout made a motion to accept the minutes as April 2021 meeting minutes. Chris Michaud seconded the motion.
- Roll-call vote: Mrs. Conlon, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Marquis, Mr. Trout, Mr. McFarland abstained due to absence.. All approved – motion carries.

Treasurers Report - Enrollment & Admissions Committee – presented by Renia Friend

- Our current enrollment is 108. We are still reaching out and doing tours. We lost 2 students since the last board meeting.
- We only have 8 students that are not on a payment plan for art fees.
- We have 130 applications for next year with 117 accepted and 11 pending.
- We have a new open house scheduled for May 26th that has been advertised.

Fundraising Committee – Update

- Chairman's Challenge- Renia Friend
We are currently at \$17K of donations toward the chairman's challenge.
- Gala

- We have 29 tickets sold for the gala. Our minimum number agreed with Zorvino's Vineyards is 75 with a maximum of 100.
- We have mailed out over 500 invitations.
- Geskus will be printing our program booklets.
- We still need sponsorships and raffle baskets, liquor for boat load of liquor (perhaps board members could contribute to making baskets). Mr. Erdbrink will send out a document, so folks are not double buying items.
- We need actual empty baskets available to fill at the school for raffle baskets.

Chair Report

- New Board Members

- We have a couple board members whose terms are expiring. Mr. McFarland's term is up with one month left. Mrs. Barrow will be stepping down at the end of the year.
- Melinda Henneberry, who is here tonight, is a GSAA parent and is interested in joining the board. Mrs. Henneberry feels she can contribute to fundraising ideas. She has experience with educational boards, fundraising and event organization.
- Lisa Peterson is leaving us as Humanities lead/English Teacher. She is also interested in joining the board. Ms. Peterson believes it is important to have a teacher on the board. She has an ongoing interest in our school having built the current Junior and Senior English programs and wants to stay involved. She believes that as a veteran teacher her input on board decisions would be beneficial.
 - *Jake Hudgins is also leaving to pursue his master's degree. We have already hired his replacement and we are currently interviewing candidates for Lisa Peterson's replacement.

- Newsletter Update

- The GSAA Journal* will be a quarterly publication created by Mr. Erdbrink and Mr. Michaud.
- It will be sent digitally.
- First edition to be sent out soon.
- The plan is to highlight school events with contributions from teachers and students.

- Tear Sheet Distribution

- Mr. Erdbrink and Mr. Michaud are still working on this and more information will be coming.

DOS Report

- Prom was Friday night at the school and went splendidly. Students were there from 6 to midnight and all went well, students had a blast.

- The SAS Science testing for Juniors will be held tomorrow.
- Open house is scheduled for next week.
- We secured a keynote speaker for graduation. Marcia McCaffery, the arts consultant for the NH DOE, will be speaking in person. She spent a day at the school last week to get to know who we are and meet the seniors. The ceremony is scheduled for Sunday June 6th at the school at 2pm. We decided to do the entire ceremony in person. Board members are welcome to attend.
- The arts showcase was held last Saturday at Field of Dreams, and it was a huge success. All the performances and art displays were wonderful. There was a good number of guests.

Facilities Committee Update – Chris Michaud

- Ed Pinto, Senior Fellow at the American Enterprise Institute recently made an interesting statement. He oversees their Housing Studies group. The substance of his statement is that *the paradigm shift in the workplace due to the pandemic has changed the way real estate will be utilized with remote working not going away*. This could lead to more empty buildings at an affordable price.

Teacher’s Representative-Lisa Peterson

- Nothing to report.

New Board Member Vote

- Chris Michaud made a motion to accept both Lisa Peterson and Melinda Henneberry as new board members for a two-year term with the possibility of Lisa Peterson serving as Secretary. Mr. Trout seconded the motion.
- Roll-call vote: Mrs. Conlon, Mr. Michaud, Mr. Marquis, Mr. Trout, Mr. McFarland - All approved – motion carries.

New Business *

- Next meeting Tuesday 6/15 /21 -- *Amended in June minutes- By Board consensus the June meeting was moved to June 22nd.*

Wrap Up and Adjourn at 7:09pm

- Mr. Trout made a motion to close the meeting. Mrs. Conlon seconded the motion. All approved and the meeting was adjourned.