

STATE OF WASHINGTON
CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION
Thursday, September 12, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Friday, September 13, 2013 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Libby Center, 2nd Floor 2900 E First Ave Spokane, WA 99202

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Dr. Doreen Cato, Trish Millines Dziko, Kevin Jacka, Chris Martin, Dr. Margit McGuire, Dave Quall, Steve Sundquist, Cindi Williams, and Larry Wright.
Staff: RaShelle Davis, Policy Advisor

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Steve Sundquist called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Attendance was taken, all Commissioners were present, and it was determined that a quorum was present to proceed with the meeting.

Each Commissioner and staff member made a self-introduction.

The Commission was welcomed to Spokane and the Libby Center by Principal Stefanie Heinen and Dr. Steven Gering.

Minutes from the August 22 Commission meeting were reviewed and approved – Commissioner McGuire moved and Commissioner Cato seconded the approval. Commissioner Wright abstained from the vote as he was not present at the August 22 meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING

Betty Burley-Wolf commented that she operates a small private school and that her school is interested in becoming a charter school.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sundquist provided an update of his public testimony with the State Board of Education regarding its proposed rules - SBE is scheduled to vote on its rules in November. He also informed the Commission that SBE approved Spokane's application to be a charter authorizer in the state.

TRAVEL DISCUSSION

The Commission declined an offer from the League of Education Voters to visit charter schools and the state authorizer in Denver, Colorado. The Commission is interested in organizing a trip to Denver sometime in 2014. This was decided unanimously with all Commissioners in favor – Commissioner Wright moved and Commissioner Dziko seconded the motion.

NACSA CONFERENCE

The Commission voted to accept NACSA's offer to attend the one-day meeting prior to the NACSA conference on Monday, October 21.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Commission went into executive session to discuss candidates for the Executive Director position.

SBE GUEST

SBE Member Cindy McMullen visited the Commission and discussed Spokane's authorizer application. She expressed her interest in working with the Commission and Spokane Public Schools.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

The strategic vision was modified and "children with special needs" was removed as a target population as they are included in the definition of "at-risk children". This was moved by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Commissioner Dziko. All Commissioners voted in favor of the modification.

Commissioner Dziko moved to approve the modified Rubric. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cato. All Commissioners voted in favor of the motion.

Commissioners Sundquist and Cato volunteered to conduct a live seminar for applicants.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DECISION

Commissioner Dziko moved to appoint Joshua Halsey as the Executive Director. All Commissioners voted in favor for this except for Commissioners Sundquist and McGuire.

RECESS

The Commission recessed for dinner at Luigi's in Spokane with staff from Spokane Public Schools.

At 8:50pm the Commission reconvened at the Davenport Hotel with a discussion on public relations and press releases for the new executive director and the release of the RFP.

CHARTER SCHOOL VISITS

On Friday, September 13 Commissioners Cato, Dziko, Martin, McGuire, Quall, Sundquist, and Wright toured Kootenai Bridge Academy and Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy.

The Commission adjourned at 2:00 p.m.