

STATE OF WASHINGTON CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION

Tuesday, May 28, 2013 – 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Technology Access Foundation
Bethaday Community Learning Space
605 SW 108th Street
Seattle, WA 98146

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

Commissioners: 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, Governor's Policy Advisor

OPENING AND WELCOME

Chair Steve Sundquist called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. Attendance was taken, all Commissioners except for Doreen Cato 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. Minutes from the April 30th Commission meeting were reviewed and approved – Commissioner Wright moved and Commissioner Martin seconded the approval.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Sundquist updated the Commission on his presentation to the State Board of Education regarding the Commission's suggested changes to the SBE proposed rules.
Commissioner Cato arrived at 10:22 a.m.

STAFF REPORT

RaShelle Davis provided a report on the finances of the Commission and briefly checked in with the Commissioners on their use of email accounts and the Commission's webpage. Ms. Davis also asked if other Commissioners were interested in receiving business cards – Commissioner Cato expressed that she would like them.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE REPORT

The subcommittee of Commissioners Dziko, McGuire, and Williams provided an update on the applications received. Discussion regarding the Commission's headquarters followed and Commissioner Quall volunteered to speak with Superintendent Dorn about renting space from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

BYLAWS

The Commission reviewed the bylaws and made several suggestions. Section 5.6 is to be deleted with the exception of the last sentence which is to be added to Section 4.2. Section 6.2d is also deleted. Commissioner Williams moved and Commissioner Dziko seconded – the motion passed to accept the bylaws with the above changes. Ms. Davis was assigned to incorporate the changes and bring a final version to the next Commission meeting.

COLLABORATION WITH SBE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

The Commission decided to make public Letters of Intent as soon as they are received.

Commissioner Williams encouraged the Commission to formalize relationships with key partners and stakeholders. She also encouraged Chair Sundquist to author a newspaper OpEd.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ken Mortland provided the Commission with a document regarding fraudulent enrollment in charter schools in Louisiana.

Melissa Westbrook provided public comment and mentioned that three school districts have withdrawn their applications to be charter school authorizers.

Roger Franklin discussed concerns about quality and doesn't want the charter schools to be constrained by traditional model. The charter school model encourages innovative approaches to education and should use Finland and Hi Tech High as models.

DON SHALVEY PRESENTATION

Mr. Shalvey of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation provided a presentation to the Commission on Charter School Management Organizations and Operators.

NACSA PROPOSAL

William Haft of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers provided an overview of the services NACSA offers and answered questions from the Commission. Commissioner McGuire was concerned about the funding source and any potential conflicts of interest. Chair Sundquist was assigned to draft a letter to memorialize the relationship between NACSA and the Charter School Commission. Commissioner Cato moved and Commissioner Martin seconded the motion to have Chair Sundquist move forward with drafting a letter of agreement.

NGA PROPOSAL

Commissioner Wright will work with Ms. Davis to determine what services NGA will offer and to memorialize an agreement letter.

TRAVEL AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Commissioners Dziko and Wright will draft language around the policy and bring to the next meeting.

RULEMAKING

The Commission determined that substantial work needed to be completed on the rules. It decided to hold two special meetings for Monday, June 3 from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Tuesday, June 4 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An Executive Session was held pursuant to RCW 42.30.110.

RECONVENED AND ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reconvened from executive session and adjourned at 5:23 p.m.