

Scattergood Friends School  
School Committee Meeting  
Open Session Proposed Minutes  
9 November 2013

**Mission Statement**

**Scattergood Friends School challenges students with a college-preparatory curriculum, farm experience, a shared work program, and community living in the spirit of Quaker faith.**

**Present:** Allan Winder, Phil Henderson, Russ Leckband, George Bergus, Bob Winchell, Karen Greenler, Ruth Dawson, Dan Schlitt, Katherine Young, Rebecca Bergus, Claire Cumbie-Drake, Debbie Galusha (clerk), Ruth Hampton

**Absent:** Lucy Hansen, Bob Winkleback, Harmony Dunn, Doyle Wilson

**Staff Present:** Christine Ashley, Rüdiger Rückmann, Thomas Weber, Alicia Streeter, Mark Shanahan, Louis Herbst, Amanda Paul

**Foundation Member:** Larry Marsh

Friends settled into silent worship in a timely manner. The clerk then read the following quotation:

“You must cry out to God from the very depths of your heart. The darkness will crack and deep counsel will be revealed. Through this your faith will be strengthened. In the end you will have perfect faith. Healing will come and great goodness will be brought into the world.”

*(II, 5:3 Advice, by Rabbi Nachman of Breslov*

**Minute: We approve both the open and closed minutes from our September 7, 2013 meeting.**

A reminder to School Committee that our goal is 100% participation in donating to the school.

We heard reports from subcommittees, and as always we are grateful to staff and for work on these updates. Academic has been addressing low enrollment. Eye appeal of classrooms is an issue so they proposed that we take a tour of the classrooms during our January meeting, and the School Committee members could each adopt-a-classroom. Admissions is re-contacting students who did not enroll, and asked School Committee members to

consider visiting Meetings and individuals about Scattergood when they travel. Development will schedule another reunion next summer, and is looking for consultants to run the Capital Campaign. A Steering Committee is being formed. Spiritual and Community Life reports that Thomas is working on a Residential Life Curriculum with discussions and documentaries for students. Facilities is relieved the water chlorination system is working well, and relayed some ideas for campus changes. Farm is excited about a bicycle-charging station from Don Laughlin, and a bike-powered barrel washer that is in the works. Human Resources will soon be sending out the Head's evaluation that will be due December 7th, and plans to bring clarifications of the Grievance Policy to the January School Committee meeting. Consultation and Finance Committee met with our accountant Jim Jorgensen who gave us a clean opinion for our review.

**Minute: We approve the current financial report as of October 25, 2013.**

**Minute: We approve the following change to the School Committee Handbook to add to the July calendar:**

***“We will approve reports from the School Committee, Head of School, and Farm Manager for Yearly Meeting.”***

The Head of School reports the school has been focused on outreach, making many visits and hosting events at the school such as the Climate Conference and a visit for the women of PEO. The school is working on being a porous environment where visitors are welcome to tour, enter classrooms and feel welcomed. She asks that School Committee member think of ways to visit with others about Scattergood, whether in our home communities or as we travel.

We affirm that Christine and the Admissions office will make a one-time exception and accept another international student, which brings it over the accepted cap of 25% of international to domestic student ratio. We briefly discussed the reasons for a cap on international students and if our programs can evolve for better integration of students where English is not their first language.

**Minute: School Committee authorizes the school that when a former staff person’s TIAA-CREF retirement account with Scattergood is below \$3,000 it will no longer be managed within the Scattergood group plan.**

Christine gave an overview of the results from the Capital Campaign survey. Student and staff housing were considered in most need of improvement, with the classrooms, lobby and gym not far behind. Nearly 70% indicated they strongly supported energy and resource conservation be included in the next steps for the school, and many indicated they would support this financially.

Alicia presented to us an Elevator Speech slideshow to help us to better talk with people about Scattergood, spreading the word to help with both enrollment and fundraising.

The Capital Campaign adhoc gave an overview of their weekly phone calls and the planning retreat. Clean Energy Coalition facilitated Friday's workshop, starting with a list of strong options for funding of clean energy building projects. We are relatively grant-friendly because of being a school and the project can be integrated into educational curriculum. They used past and current information for a state-of-the-school report, and recommended we use the Integrated Design Process as a collaborative method of creating our plan. We heard student presentations and looked at four examples of green building projects, examining how they might apply to us. We

then envisioned aspects of the campus in 2020, and began writing a timeline for these ideas. A pdf of the funding list, the slideshow and our brainstorming session is available.

After the workshop, C&F brainstormed ideas for the campus and presented them at Saturday's meeting. Thomas and Louis will work on gathering needs and information at the school, and Phil, Allan, Mark S., Debbie and Christine will begin meeting as a Master Plan ad hoc committee. Phil will convene.

The clerk concluded our open meeting to continue with a closed meeting.

Ruth Hampton, recording clerk

**School Committee Meetings:** January 11. March 15 (Des Moines?), May 3, July 22