

Scattergood Friends School
School Committee Meeting
Open Session
Proposed Minutes
2 February 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: George Bergus, Rebecca Bergus, Claire Cumbie-Drake, Ruth Dawson, Debbie Galusha (clerk), Karen Greenler, Lucy Hansen, Phil Henderson, Russ Leckband, Callie Marsh, Sylvia Sanford, Dan Schlitt, Bob Winchell, Allan Winder

Absent: Ruthie Hampton, Doyle Wilson

Staff Present: Christine Ashley, Cathy Chun, Amanda Paul, Mark Quee, Rüdiger Rückmann, Lynn Saoirse, Mark Shanahan, Sam Taylor

Guests: Richard Johnson and Larry Marsh of the SFS Foundation

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

The Quaker is charged with Utopian tendencies and is called a perfectionist because he does not limit freedom from hatred and strife to a special professional class or to a future state in this life or the next. He is, indeed, a perfectionist in the sense that he believes that every man has within him the possibility and the duty to be wholly obedient to the will of God as inwardly revealed, but even such complete obedience does not mean that the goal of life has been reached. The divine Light is a principle of growth. In this Light the perfect seed grows into the perfect sprout, which in turn develops into the perfect plant.

Compromise consists in deliberate failure to choose the way which leads toward the highest.

Friends for 300 Years, by Howard H. Brinton

Minute: We approve the minutes, both open and closed, of our meeting on 1 December 2012 with one change. Bob Winkleblack is on the Academic Sub-Committee, not the Farm Committee.

Minute: We approve the financial reports.

We heard good reports from the Facilities, Academic, Development, Farm, Spiritual and Community Life, Admissions, and the Consultation and Finance Committees. We thank the staff for their timely and invaluable work on these reports.

Minute: We approve the changes in the Long-Range Plan as suggested by Phil Henderson and Debbie Galusha. They are as follows:

1. Omit the latter half of the third paragraph in the Introduction: ***The objectives are in a separate document with the actions and support the goals. These originate from staff and require approval at the subcommittee level, followed by notification to the whole School Committee. The actions support the objectives, originate from staff, and need subcommittee approval. The steps are the smallest and most detail oriented, and as such, are completely under the authority of school staff and administrators. The subcommittees need to be notified.***

2. Change the sub-heading under heading "Goal 5 -- Diversify and enhance financial resources and the overall financial position from ***Five Year Financial Plan*** to Financial Plan.

3. Omit the words ***Five-year*** in the first sentence of Goal 5 to read "The financial plan prioritizes the goals of raising staff salaries, . . ."

4. Omit the last sentence in the last paragraph of Goal 5: ***Our goal is to have excess operating funds to fund the capital needs of the school in the amount that will match or exceed the annual depreciation of the school.***

5. Add the following sentence at the end of the last paragraph of Goal 5: ***Our goal is to fund the capital needs of the school.***

6. Omit the words ***Five Year*** in the third subheading of Goal 5 to now read ***Capital Plan.***

7. Omit the second sentence in the first paragraph under subheading Capital Plan: ***Only the depreciated amount is expensed each year in the operating budget.***

8. All references in the document to the Dean of Students will be changed to Assistant Head.

The Development Subcommittee has asked for our help in broadening our donor base by finding one or two households that "Scatterings", the school's newsletter, could be sent.

Our annual financial report completed by Latta Harris Accountants from Tipton indicates that financial statements are in good order.

The Facilities Subcommittee has asked the Head of School to take to her teaching staff the question of what is there about the facilities that hinders the education of our students?

There was a discussion about the grading policy recently approved. The Head of School will be continuing the discussion with the staff.

Christine Ashley and Debbie Galusha will visit about our participation in a community-wide event of Andy Juhl's band on April 5. It may be an opportunity for us to have some fun together.

Richard Johnson and Larry Marsh of the Scattergood Friends School Foundation visited us today. Richard, Treasurer of the Foundation Trustees, gave us a clear and helpful description of how the trustees manage the Endowment Funds. We much appreciated his presentation.

The clerk brought our open meeting to a close.

Callie Marsh, recording clerk