

YOUTH ADVANCEMENT ACADEMY/OMBUDSMAN  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING

6750 Chime Street  
Kalamazoo MI 49009

Tuesday, October 14, 2014  
5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Vice President James Ridders at 5:30 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Oath of Office for Mr. Jeff Pellerito –

Mr. Pellerito was ill and unable to attend the meeting.

IV. Roll Call

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Fricke (entered at 5:35 p.m.), Mollie Peterson, Stacey Randolph and James Ridders.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Robert Hamet.

OTHERS: Amber Long, Scott Russell, Rich Hamann, Michele Seaberry-Travier (Parent), Jennifer Austin (Family & Children Services), Karen Kreize and Sharon Nichols-Hicks, Brad Storms, Scott Ryder and Faye Goldner.

V. Call to the Audience ~ Audience may address the board at this time ~ Comments are limited to five minutes

Ms. Seaberry-Travier addressed the Board in regard to enrollment issues with her daughter. She indicated she does not know the status of her daughter's enrollment at the Youth Advancement Academy and would like some guidance. Attorney Ryder told Ms. Seaberry-Travier that he would speak with her after the meeting and explain options for her daughter's placement.

V. Approval of Regular Agenda

It was moved by Fricke and supported by Randolph to approve the regular agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Randolph and supported by Peterson to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2014, regular meeting and minutes of the September 16, 2014, special meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Communications

A. Director's Report - Mrs. Amber Long

Mrs. Long shared the following:

- Current enrollment is at 45 students and that is the number that was recorded on count day
- PD was held on September 19, 2014

- A breakdown of student demographics was provided to the Board

B. Update YAA Audio-Visual

Ms. Susan Merrigan who worked on the first video promoting YAA is recommending the Board update the video. Vice President Ridders suggested the strategic plan marketing/financial committee discuss the update and bring their recommendation back to the board at a subsequent meeting.

C. Update on Potential Board Members

Vice President Ridders stated the Board is still looking for additional board members.

VIII. Regular Agenda

A. Financial Report

Mr. Brad Storms stated the current financial report shows a negative cash flow. He stated that is because the October state aid payment has not been received yet. The correct balances will be reflected in the November report.

B. Student Enrollment Issue w/Student #70488-Feedback From School Attorney

Attorney Scott Ryder shared information relating to the Michigan School Code and enrollment regulations for strict discipline academies. He explained how students are placed in a strict discipline academy, including how special education students are placed. He stated the decision on where the student is placed is out of the hands of the Youth Advancement Academy and the responsibility of the Kalamazoo Public Schools and Kalamazoo RESA for providing educational services at this time. He further stated the only way the student could be placed at YAA is if an IEP team recommends the student be placed at the Youth Advancement Academy.

C. Youth Advancement Academy Expansion Status

This item was tabled to a subsequent meeting.

D. Strategic Plan and Update

Board members who are chairing the specific committees of the strategic plan were asked to consult with the members of their committee and report back to the board at a subsequent meeting.

Vice President Ridders stated the administrative/personnel committee looked at the current initiatives and felt the current goals are appropriate and will develop three or four specific areas of action planning to bring back at a subsequent meeting.

- Academic
- Administrative/Personnel
- Marketing/Financial
- Vocational

X. Next Meeting ~ Tuesday, November 11, 2014, at 5:30 p.m.

XI. Adjourn

It was moved by **Randolph** and supported by **Peterson** to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Faye L. Goldner, Recording Secretary

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Robert P. Hamet, President

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Stacey Randolph, Secretary/Treasurer