

# NBFA Board of Directors Annual Meeting

June 21, 2016

## Meeting Minutes

### Attendance

Board Members: David Schlakman, Paul Myerson, Margaret Walker, Kevin Knight, Claire Foerster, Mary Humphries, David Hunter, Christine King, Melissa Jenkins.

Absent: Sabita Kanhai

Staff: Ronelle Swagerty, Xiomara Martinez, Aggie Compare, Valore Turner, Katherine Habansky, Quentin Ball

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Guests: Rachael Gordon, board candidate; NBFA parents

The meeting was called to order at 4:17 pm by David Schlakman, president.

### Public Comments:

Mrs. Nicole Bernard opened the period of public comment opposing the dismissal time change at NBFA for the 2016-2017 school year to 1:50 p.m. for the regular school day and 3:50 p.m. for extended day, expressing concern that a) the earlier dismissal will make it difficult for working families to pick up their children and b) the May 18, 2016 announcement did not give them enough time to explore other options. The families also questioned the school's plan for delivering physical education to children in the upcoming school year, in light of the fact that the annex, which currently serves as gym space, is slated to be fitted up to accommodate middle school students in 2016-2017. David Schlakman indicated that the board would consider the comments and that Mrs. Swagerty would respond to the parents in a week or two. He then thanked the parents for their input and proceeded with the agenda.

### Action Items:

1. Kevin Knight, chair of the Governance Committee, presented the 2016-2017 Slate of Officers. There was no change to the current slate of officers: David Schlakman to remain as president; Claire Foerster, vice president; Paul Myerson, treasurer; Christine King, secretary. Motion to elect 2016-2017 slate of officers: David Hunter 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary Humphries 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous
2. Mr. Knight presented suggested revisions to the bylaws concerning Article II, Section 2.4 (Terms of office) and Article IV, Section 4.1 (Offices, Appointment, Term and Vacancies). Motion to amend the by-laws: Paul Myerson 1<sup>st</sup>, Christine King 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous
3. Mr. Knight presented Rachel Gordon as a candidate for the Board of Directors. Motion to elect Rachael Gordon to the NBFA Board: Paul Myerson 1<sup>st</sup>, Mary Humphries 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous

4. Mr. Knight explained that board member Sabita Kanhai is facing a number of personal challenges that impede her ability to serve on the board at this time. Motion to remove Sabita Kanhai from the board: Kevin Knight 1<sup>st</sup>, David Hunter 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous

Other Action Items:

1. Motion to approve 04/19/2016 meeting minutes: Mary Humphries 1<sup>st</sup>, David Hunter 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous
2. Mrs. Swagerty presented the 2016-2017 school calendar, which comprises 180 days for children plus five development days for teachers. NBFA will only have half days for progress report conferences and the day immediately preceding holidays and school breaks. Motion to approve the 2016-2017 school calendar: David Hunter 1<sup>st</sup>, Paul Myerson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous
3. Mrs. Swagerty presented the board with the proposed mission statement including language that is more aligned with the school's progressive model. After some discussion, the board recommended that additional work needed to be done. Motion to amend the NBFA mission statement: Claire Foerster 1<sup>st</sup>, David Hunter 2<sup>nd</sup>. Tabled with the recommendation to solicit feedback from all stakeholders
4. Mrs. Swagerty asked the board to approve the summer renovation project not to exceed \$300,000. One of the key components of the summer renovation would be to make the annex into a middle school for NBFA's 7th and 8th graders. Discussion ensued. Mr. Hunter inquired whether there would be a loss of space for children's physical education as a result of the renovations. Mrs. Valore Turner, NBFA's academic dean, informed the board that gym will be held at the YMCA, providing students with more physical opportunities than they have had in the past. Motion to approve summer renovation project: David Hunter 1<sup>st</sup>, Paul Myerson 2<sup>nd</sup>, Melissa Jenkins abstained, Motion carries

Discussion Items:

Mrs. Swagerty reported that there were no non-renewals of teachers for lack of performance this year. Rather, some teachers will move on of their own accord. In response to Mr. Myerson's question, she said the school had eight certified teachers and 6 instructional assistant positions to be filled over the summer. There will be a total of 27 classrooms.

Executive Session:

Motion to go into Executive Session: David Schlakman, 1<sup>st</sup>, Christine King, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Unanimous. Executive Session commenced at 5:32 pm and adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

The NBFA Board of Directors Meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m. by Mr. Schlakman

Respectfully Submitted,

Xiomara Martinez,  
Recording Secretary