

VISION FOR

The Vision For Innovation Academy, Inc.



INNOVATION ACADEMY

Board of Trustees Annual Meeting Minutes March 26, 2015 - 4:00 p.m.

Members Present: Linda Willis, President; Ann Cottle, Treasurer; Greg Orpen, Head of School; Peter Torkildsen, Member; Susan Howard, Clerk

4:07 p.m. – Linda Willis, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board.

4:08 p.m. – Ann Cottle presented the Treasurer’s Report from July 1, 2014-March 26, 2015 reflecting a net income of **\$975.00**, and circulated a Treasurer’s Journal from September 16, 2014 through March 21, 2015. Expenses this quarter were primarily IRS filing fees and bank maintenance fees. We will ask to have bank fees waived going forward given our nonprofit status. An invoice for \$127.37 was submitted for website maintenance renewal fees and a brief discussion was held to determine optimal timing to renew domain name and ongoing web support. Motion by Susan Howard to accept the Treasure Report as submitted by Ann Cottle; Seconded by Peter Torkildsen; all in favor, ***motion carried.***

4:17 p.m. – Greg Orpen updated the board on the IACS grant consulting relationship with RJ Miller. While there has been a learning curve for both sides of this partnership, Mr. Orpen is pleased with the time and grant submissions being generated by this collaboration. To date approximately \$500,000.00 in grants are in the pipeline; IACS receives weekly, detailed updates from our dedicated grant writer; and VIA’s nonprofit status is serving primarily for grant submissions. Grants currently are focused in three areas: A low-ropes course addressing leadership programs with a health/fitness component; enhancing technology upgrades to support software and hardware related to our systems thinking/system dynamics classroom programs and strategies; and, technology upgrades in support of our proposed BYOD program featuring our unique commitment to digital student portfolios.

4:40 p.m. – Greg Orpen also updated the board on progress made last fall meeting with Jay Forrester to discuss pursuing “Forrester Fellowships” for a cohort of educators. Fellowship recipients would participate in a mentorship/learning collaboration with experts in the field to develop shared tools and strategies for K-12 classrooms. Using experts such as Alan Ticotsky, Jeff Potlash and George Richardson, IACS is revising a letter crafted to corporations and organizations supportive of Systems Thinking/ Systems Dynamics (ST/SD) work that would carry Mr. Forrester’s name along with our Head of School and perhaps other leaders in ST/SD. We would be asking for 2-year funding per fellowship/participant as well as for potential mentors to partner with the Forrester Fellowship Program. IACS is uniquely poised to create and implement these fellowships given in-classroom educator successes to date, and our own staff would be candidates to apply for fellowships once implemented.

5:04 p.m. – Linda reiterated that the strategies with grant funding and the Forrester Fellowships gives focus and guidance to our support of IACS priorities going forward. VIA will continue to respond to IACS initiatives and needs as noted by the Head of School, and Greg Orpen mentioned the continued need for facilities expansion and design of a new IACS multi-year strategic plan. The IACS Board of Trustees will be addressing strategic planning at an April retreat and VIA will be updated through the Head of School about ways we can be revenue-responsive going forward. The board agreed that our current website presence and organizational flyer is adequate to address internal and external visibility for VIA.

5:12 p.m. – Peter Torkildsen motioned to elect Linda Willis and Ann Cottle to a second board term of three years effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2018. Seconded by Susan Howard; ***motion carried***. Peter Torkildsen motioned to re-elect Linda Willis as President, Ann Cottle as Treasurer, and Susan Howard as Clerk for another year effective July 1, 2015-June 30, 2016. Seconded by Greg Orpen; all in favor, ***motion carried***.

5:20 p.m. – The board agreed to put updates on our June meeting agenda addressing web domain and support renewal; income allocation to IACS for 2014/2015; and BOT strategic planning focus. Linda Willis suggested we continue to communicate via email as needed. Our next meeting date will be June 8, 2015, 4:00-5:30 p.m. in the IACS Main Building Second Floor Conference Room

5:30 p.m. – Peter Torkildsen motioned to adjourn the meeting; Seconded by Ann Cottle; all in favor, ***motion carried***.

Submitted, reviewed and accepted via email:

Susan Howard

Susan Howard, Clerk

April 1, 2015
(Date)