

VISION FOR



INNOVATION ACADEMY

The Vision For Innovation Academy, Inc.

Board of Trustees

Meeting Minutes

January 30, 2014 - 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Linda Willis, President; Greg Orpen, Interim Executive Director; Ann Cottle, Treasurer; Peter Torkildsen, Member ; Susan Howard, Clerk

4:10 p.m. – Linda Willis, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed the Board.

4:11 p.m. – Susan Howard stated that the IRS 501(c)3 status certification letter was received January 6, 2014 following a February 1, 2013 filing date and an October request from the IRS for further application information. ***The Vision For Innovation Academy, Inc.,(VIA)***, is officially declared a tax-exempt 501(c)3 public charity under section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi) of the IRS Code. Congratulations to the Board!

4:15 p.m. – Ann Cottle, Treasurer, presented and reviewed the July 1, 2013-December 31, 2013 Treasurer’s Report. Total income was \$6,300.00 with net income of \$4,734.90 after insurance, filing fees and minor bank expenses. Ann Cottle motioned to accept the Treasurer’s Report as presented; seconded by Susan Howard; all in favor; ***motion carried.***

4:22 p.m. – The group discussed the need for securing a VIA web domain and several naming possibilities were considered. There was further discussion about content for a new VIA website and how we might link that site within the Google format to the IACS website. It was agreed that we would develop content and work with the school to implement a web link between our organizations. The Board’s goal will be to obtain a website, develop content and link to the school website during February. Linda Willis made a motion to secure, fund and develop a domain name and website that would link to the IACS website; Seconded by Susan Howard; all in favor; ***motion carried.***

4:46 p.m. – Peter Torkildsen reviewed the discussion that took place with Umass Lowell last fall regarding shared facilities collaboration. Greg Orpen reached out in December to Vice Chancellor Moloney to arrange an IACS site visit but has not heard back. Peter will follow up directly with Chancellor Marty Meehan’s office to request time with Vice Chancellor Moloney. Collaboration with Umass Lowell remains our primary focus for completion of our Phase IV Expansion Initiative facilities plan. The school’s hope is to build a “Commons” facility that would meet multiple purposes such as learning, athletics, and events such as wellness activities, science fairs, campus-wide assemblies, athletics, music etc. Our primary step is to meet with Umass Lowell to understand their interests and needs.

5:10 p.m. – Greg Orpen provided an overview of two focus initiatives that VIA might fund: technology capacity and Systems thinking training. The school is moving toward “BYOD;” (bring your own device) but may also need help with hardware or higher tech equipment. We might consider providing staff training in Systems thinking and/or provide Fellowships to deserving staff to enhance this core value within our school’s mission. Greg will meet with a staff advisory group in early February and facilitate ideas from staff on how VIA might help.

5:23 p.m. – The Board will meet via email exchange during February and host an Annual Meeting on **Monday, March 17, 2014**. The Board of Trustees of IACS will be invited to that meeting along with a general invitation to the IACS community. Our hope is to have a final decision and be able to present financial support to an IACS initiative at that meeting.

5:31 p.m. – Motion to adjourn meeting by Peter Torkildsen. Linda Willis Seconded. All in favor!

Submitted by:

Susan G. Howard

Susan Howard, Clerk

Accepted: 3/17/14

(Date)

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