

The Renaissance2

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Charter School

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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APPROVED (Dec. 6, 2017)

October 5, 2017

The Renaissance Charter School 2

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

The meeting convened at 7:45 PM.

1. Roll Call: Present: Everett Boyd, Rachel Mandel, Elizabeth Perez;
Absent: Natalie Hardcastle, Conor McCoy – quorum met
Also Present: Stacey Gauthier, Daniel Fanelli, Matthew Delforte
2. Nomination for Board Secretary -
Chairperson, Everett Boyd, nominated Liz Perez; Dr. Rachel Mandel seconded
The nomination was accepted; Liz Perez elected by acclamation.
3. Renaissance 2 Status and General Update –
 - Stacey Gauthier: The two schools have different authorizers. TRCS 2 cannot have employees on its board. TRCS 2 is required to have 12 board meetings per year. We are working with Civic Builders to locate facilities. We are cultivating relationships (e.g. Regent Chin) and conducting various meetings with community members and various elected officials (e.g. Councilman Dromm) as well as having ongoing conversations about relationship between the two schools (TRCS and TRCS 2)
 - Matthew Delforte: The Charter was approved in the spring of 2017. NYSED wants us to discuss the legal and functional relationship between TRCS and TRCS 2. The schools will be two separate legal entities. The expectation is that TRCS will have control over TRCS 2. Will we merge the two corporate entities and have two separate authorizers, or will it be a parent/subsidiary relationship? There are legal issues around each. We need to have an MOA to explain the legal and functional relationship between the two schools.

- Matthew will be working with David Frank and lawyers at SED in regards to the MOA.

 - Stacey: SED recognizes that this will be the first time a conversion school maintains a relationship with its second school, and there are issues around being a conversion school. It is our intention to work with the unions
4. Presentation on facilities – Daniel Fanelli-
- The TRCS 2 team has been meeting with Civic Builders, who are helping secure and build space. A handout was presented regarding potential sites. The team visited six sites with Civic Builders. The charter was approved for K-6, so the plan is around that for Phase 1. One specific site (the “ice cream factory”) has the potential to expand as the school expands.
- The Ice Cream Factory is close to the 7 train, which is good for linking the two schools.
 - It has multiple buildings; we could potentially take over two sites
 - Second phase would connect second building for a HS
 - We want to match facilities funding as much as we can with the space we have, as it’s important for expandability.
 - Is it possible to have this space?
 - Moving in is an issue because of the funding, which is all up front. We would have to dip into the general school fund (as opposed to facilities fund)
 - Test fit: owner brought in his own architects after seeing our interest.
 - Zoning--must be changed; would split up into three separate zones, which would not be optimal for owners, who want to build luxury housing, which would cut back on our space. Civic Builders is negotiating this on our behalf.

We are still investigating other sites--this issue has moved our timeline forward for opening in a new facility. We would not be able to open in 2018, and would have to incubate in a facility in 2019, which is not ideal for a number of reasons. We need to re-think the plan, which is to start with younger grades and move up. We don’t think it is wise to incubate too far away, especially with younger kids. Another alternative is not to be located in CSD30. If we don’t have to do renovation at first, that will help us build financially. The only expense so far has been the test fit. We’ve been approached by others, including our authorizers, with a potential site in Jamaica, Queens (Vaughn College). They’ll offer a site in another district, which is not family-friendly.

5. Public Speaking - NONE

Meeting Adjourned - 8:10pm