



Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School

Board of Trustees Meeting

May 24, 2022

6:30pm - 8:00pm

Brooklyn Urban Garden Charter School, 500 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY

<https://meet.google.com/iww-pkee-pye>

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Members Present: Cathy Boeckmann, Jamal Deek, Adam Drucker, Felice Ekelman, Regina Fechter, Louis Green, Charles Hertzog, Hallie Iannoli, Christine Kang, Don Mabrey, Jackie Piccolo, PTA representative: Ana Bast

Others present: Susan Tenner (BUGS Executive Director), Susan Bakst (Director of Marketing and Outreach), Tara Lindis-Corbell (PTA Executive Board), William Romney (Catapult Learning and potential board member), Jeanette Zochniak (BUGS PTA), Richard Garcia (Columbia Business School), Mary Myles (Columbia Business School)

I. Welcome and Approval of the Minutes

- A. The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm
- B. Guests introduced themselves including William Romney, long-time educator and potential board member; Tara Lindis-Corbell, Incoming PTA co-president; Jeanette Zockniak, incoming PTA board member; and Richard Garcia and Mary Myles, students at Columbia Business School.
- C. Felice Ekelman made a motion to approve the April minutes, Louis Green seconded, and all approved.
- D. For the mission moment, Susan Tenner asked the guests to revisit the questions the board had discussed in April, including: What do students need to know to create a sustainable future; what are you most worried about for our young adolescents, their development, and the world they live in right now; and what do you think our youth have going for them and should lean into.

II. Education and Accountability

Charles Hertzog presented on behalf of the committee.

- A. The focus of this month's meeting was on how to communicate to students and families about the shift to standards-based grading and the review of parent/guardian facing components.
- B. The board also discussed teacher training and professional development to support standards-based grading and encourage buy-in.

III. Finance Report

Jamal Deek reported on behalf of the committee.

- A. Jamal provided an update about the finance report touching on sound ratios and the healthy state of the budget.
- B. The board discussed the increase in facility rent with the new lease and impact on operations going forward while balancing inflation and commitment to co-teaching model.
- C. The committee is preparing the budget for board vote at the June meeting.
- D. Cathy Boeckmann made a motion to approve Jamal Deek as signatory for the BUGS bank account, Felice Ekelman seconded and all approved.

IV. Governance and Nominating Committee

Cathy reported on behalf of the committee.

- A. The recruiting update included that Ana Bast and Jenara Preto have submitted packets to begin the NYSED board member approval process. William Romney, by meeting with Susan and observing today's board meeting, has continued the initial step in the process.
- B. The Executive Director review is ongoing with Cathy actively soliciting feedback from the board and Jackie interviewing staff.
- C. There will be a vote on the compensation memo in the Executive Session.
- D. The annual meeting will take place in June. Trustee participation is important to have a quorum for important votes including new terms and the budget. There was a brief discussion about on-site or virtual meetings for 2022-2023 with Cathy to review suggestions from the board.
- E. Cathy stated that the committee discussed Susan Tenner's interest in serving on the board of NY Sun Works, and that it can be discussed further with the board at a later time because of time constraints.
- F. Students from Columbia Business School presented research and recommendations from their project on the sustainability education landscape.

There was no Public Comment.

At 8:05pm, Jackie Piccolo made a motion to go into executive session. Feice Ekelman seconded and all approved. Christine Kang made a motion to approve the Executive Compensation memo and Regina Fechter seconded.

The Executive Session ended at 8:30pm.