

THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION
THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Minutes of the Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
April 27, 2010 at 18h30, Library
Draft

Members Present:

Mr. Darryl Robinson, President

Mr. Hossam El-Shaffei, Treasurer

Mr. Mark Lewis, Secretary

Mr. Joseph Hanania, Member

Mr. Ali Lejlic, Member

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member:

Ms. Sandra R. Smith, Ambassador's Representative

Others Present:

Mr. Larry McIlvain, Superintendent

Mr. Steve Mancuso, Middle/High School Principal

Ms. Diana O'Leary, Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Diana Rihani, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Hamdi Hamdi, Business Manager

Absent:

Mr. Azad Keval, Vice-President

Mrs. Susan Razzaz, Member

Ms. Sandra R. Smith, Ambassador's Representative

18h40min

1. Call to Order

Mr. Robinson asked to approve the March 23, 2010 minutes and the April 27, 2010 Consent Agenda

A motion was made and approved by a show of hands of the March 23, 2010 Minutes and the April 23, 2010 Consent Agenda after adding "Presentation by AE7".

2. Committee, Task Force and School Reports

Report #1: Teacher Representative Report – Shannon Balawi

Mrs. Shukri, who has taken over for Mrs. Balawi, informed the Board members of the following activities taking place at ACS during the last month:

- EMAC JAF group got back from an exciting fun filled cultural arts trip in Dubai.

- Badminton team also returned from Kuwait. Although our team did not place one of our student received a medal or recognition.
- MS came back from Adventure Jordan. All MS teachers were involved ex. Specials.
- Backtrack to our PD day. Teachers were busy in workshops. Eight of our teachers attended the NESAC conference where two people presented. During the PD day those teachers and other presented workshops for our faculty to choose from and attend.
- Elementary teachers and Arabic teachers were busy organizing the students for EARTH DAY. Students shared what they did in class and they made banners.
- Arabic Department (April 11) had Open House with presentations to celebrate the Arabic program.
- Robotics Show which included elementary and MS kids.
- Library week was April 18-22: Mrs. Abu Ghazaleh arranged activities: Poems in my pocket, a daily trivia quiz in the M.A. winners received a bag of popcorn, Book mark contest. NJHS kids gave elementary students "caught" reading a pencil and sticker.
- Literary Magazine is being developed for publication in the HS.
- Teachers are busy preparing AP students for exams.
- Progress reports for HS have gone out.
- NHS continues with the clothes drive. NJHS is also involved with that in the upcoming spring fling.
- Also NHS is having a quiz night tomorrow at 6pm.
- Recreation leadership has sponsored the touch football for anyone who wants to join.
- Track team headed out to ABS this afternoon for a meet.
- The amazing 5th grade team did a great job to organize the 5th grade Wadi Rum trip tomorrow.
- Musical presentation gr. 1 "Carnival of the Animals" in the MPR with 2 shows at 10 and 2. One show for parents and one for students.

Report #2: PTG - Leslie Kann

Mrs. Kann was not present. Mr. Robinson informed the Board of the following event that the PTG had been involved in:

- ACS Family Dance Night organized by Mrs. Stephanie Stone which was a success.
- The teacher appreciation will be next week.
- The Spring Fling will be on May 8.
- The PTG Board elections will be during the May meeting.
- PTG offered to help the library pack up.
- PTG has donated \$5,000 toward the pergola.
- The May Media Sale.
- The PTG would appreciate more teacher involvement in their activities.

Report #3: Task Forces:

Development Task Force

Hania Juma updated the Board about admissions to ACS saying that since January 2010 she has had 173 new applications and 131 were accepted up till now. There will be 60 students leaving this year. Anticipated student population for the beginning of 2010/11 school year is 579 students.

Alumni update, we have over 430 facebook alumni members. The Boston reunion event this summer is being promoted via facebook.

ACS is planning a local get together for a BBQ end of May and we hope to have a bigger one in December 2010 and June of next year.

Hind Abu Alia, Pulicis branding company representative, presented the company's credentials and mission. She presented the Board members with a booklet about Publicis as well. Mr. McIlvain also told the Board members about the process of choosing Publicis. The owner, Mr. McIlvain added, is an alumni of ACS, therefore; he gave us a good discount.

Mr. Charles Fox, representative of AE7, an architectural company, gave a presentation about the school projects they have taken in the United States and the Gulf. It was an impressive presentation.

Governance Task Force

Governance Task Force chaired by Mr. Keval – No Report.

Policy Review Task Force

Policy review task force chaired by Mr. Lewis – Mr. McIlvain said that the Policy Committee members have been working on changing, updating, deleting and adding policies. Some of those policies will be presented to the full Board during the work session.

Strategic Vision Task Force

No Report.

Report #4: Financial/Capital Improvements – Hossam El-Shaffei

Mr. El-Shaffei said that the Finance Committee met on April 21, 2010. They discussed the following:

- End of March 2010 Report.
- Presented next year's budget in details and decided to present it to the full Board and make recommendations.
- Looked at five or six policies for reviewing and revising in addition to the new "Bad Debt" policy that will be presented to the full Board tonight.
- Heard from the Superintendent regarding the field 2.
- AE7 will have a recommendation to the Board.

Over all, it was a long and fruitful meeting.

Report #5: Superintendent's Report - Larry McIlvain

Larry McIlvain shared his Superintendent's report with the Board members by distributing a hard copy to Board members.

Mr. McIlvain said briefly that Mrs. Erma Anderson, Science and Math Consultant from the State Department, is visiting ACS.. He congratulated Mr. Mancuso on a successful middle school "Discover Jordan" program. Parking lot is safer now. Met with a group of alumni whom he new when he was at ACS a while back.

3.0 Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn. The motion was accepted without vote at 19h28.

The next regularly scheduled meetings are:

- Board of Directors, Tuesday, May 11, 2010 at 17h30
- Work Session, Tuesday, May 11, 2010 after the open session
- ACO Meetings -Second meeting will be on May 4 at 6:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Diana Rihani