

William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity

June 23, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Hether Benjamin Brown
Dr. Toya Roberts Conston
Immy Papadopoulos
Morris Smith (new board member)
Yolanda Smith
Kimberly Wilkinson

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT

Terence Frederick
Catherine Mosbacher
Mary Ramos
Gerald Womack

STAFF/GUESTS

Cheryl Lawson, Executive Director
Dr. Marthea Raney, Principal

William A. Lawson Institute for Peace and Prosperity Agenda

- 1. Call to Order.** The meeting was called to order by Toya Conston at 9:40 a.m.
- 2. Establishment of Quorum.** The quorum was established at 9:40 a.m.
- 3. Opening Prayer & Pledge of Allegiance.**
- 4. Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
- 5. Approval of Minutes from May 26, 2018.** Immy Papadopoulos moved the approval of minutes from May 26, 2018. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson.
- 6. Governance and Nominating Committee Report.** There was no report.
- 7. Finance and Audit Committee Report.** Toya Roberts-Conston reported on the May financial reports. Amendments to the FY18 Budget were recommended to reduce the variances between budget and actual. Yolanda Smith moved the approval of the Budget Amendment. Kimberly Wilkinson seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson. Cheryl Lawson presented the FY19 Proposed Budget. Amendments to the FY19 Budget will occur when TEA publishes the Budget Worksheet on July 1st. Immy Papadopoulos moved the approval of the FY19 Budget As Presented. Hether Benjamin Brown seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson.
- 8. Executive Director's Report.** Executive Director Cheryl Lawson presented Active Shooter Insurance and updates on grants submitted for award.

The Lawson Academy Agenda

A. Academy Report. Dr. Marthea Raney examined STAAR results for all grades, discussing 100% participation and dramatic growth from prior year results. There was discussion of the High Schools students attend after graduation from The Lawson Academy, and Dr. Raney described the emphasis on reviewing student goals and alignment with academic performance. Mentors played a large role in assisting with high school applications. It was suggested that a Fact Sheet be constructed to promote the school's growth results. Faculty survey was reviewed, and although

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only about 25% of staff responded, the results provide useful information. It was suggested that a follow-up survey be completed in the Fall Professional Development schedule.

Dr. Raney discussed the changes expected in fall including an earlier school day (7:30 a.m. start) and breakfast in the classrooms. Staffing will include Aides to assist with student transitions and classroom supports. The school day will end at 2:45 p.m.

B. Recruiting. Report on enrollment projections (184 enrolled, 149 pending).

C. Facility Report. Discussion of the lawsuit filed by TSG, LLC. There has been a package received in advance of today's Board Meeting requesting discovery documents. Immy Papadopoulos suggested that until the discovery is complete, there can be no 'summary judgement' in the case. WALIPP will respond within the 30-day timeline. Legal expenses to date will be emailed to everyone (amount was \$9,960.97). Cheryl Lawson will contact Frank Karkowsky to inform him of the lawsuit.

D. Executive Session. Hether Benjamin Brown moved to open the Executive Session Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson. Kimberly Wilkinson moved to end the Executive Session at 11:58 a.m. Yolanda Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson.

E. Adjournment. Yolanda Smith moved adjournment at 11:58 a.m. Morris Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved by H. Brown, T. Conston, I. Papadopoulos, M. Smith, Y. Smith, and K. Wilkinson.