Charter Institute at Erskine Meeting Minutes

Chair	Dr. Rob Gustafson	**Attendees from Charter Institute at Erskine**
Treasurer	Martin O'Connor	Vamshi Rudrapati (Director)
Members in Attendance	Stu Rodman	Cameron Runyan (CEO)
	Rev. Tony Foster	Sarah Timmons
	Dr. Tom Hellams	
	Mrs. Beth Gustafson (11:10 AM)	

Other attendees from the Charter Institute at Erskine included: Mr. John Li, Mr. Allen Ray, Ms. Haley Perez, Mrs, Christy Junkins, Mrs. Kristen Stolpa, Mrs. Ashley Sturkie, Mrs. Paula Gray, Mrs. Ciera Bing, Ms. Kusuma Buddhiraju, Ms. Elizabeth Riberdy, Ms. Emma Shealy, Ms. Sarah Shealy, Ms. Melani Roark, Mr. Robbie Anderson, Ms. Ashley Epperson, and Ms. Kirby Jerry. Others in attendance were Dr. Brian Newsome, Ms. Teresa Brazell, Mr. David Crook, Mr. Mike D'Angelo, Mr. Jason Jones, and Ms. Margaret Dullanty.

Dr. Gustafson called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m. and opened with a prayer.

Mrs. Paula Gray called the roll and a quorum was present.

Adoption of the Agenda for the September 16, 2020, Meeting

Mr. Rodman moved to approve the agenda for September 16, 2020.

Dr. Hellams seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Approval of the Minutes of August 19, 2020

Mr. O'Connor moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2020, meeting.

Dr. Hellams seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was needed for this meeting.

Action Items

Charter Committee Criminal Disclosure Policy	Presenter: Kristen Stolpa
Mrs. Kristen Stolpa presented this item for approval and explained that the policy is meant to safeguard all involved. Mr. Rudrapati and Attorney Sarah Timmons clarified the policy items and explained the due process element. Mr. Rodman moved for approval of the Charter Committee Criminal Disclosure Policy as presented. Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.	
Management Organization and Required Agreement Provisions Policy	**Presenter: Kristen Stolpa**
Ms. Stolpa presented this item for approval. Dr. Gustafson stated that this is an important policy and appreciates that the policy was presented.	

Dr. Hellams moved for approval of the Management Organization and Required Agreement Provisions Policy as presented.	
Mrs. Gustafson seconded the motion.	
The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.	
Gray Collegiate Academy By-Laws Amendments	**Presenter: Kristen Stolpa**
Dr. Brian Newsome, Principal, and Ms. Teresa Brazell, Board Chair, of Gray Collegiate Academy were in attendance. Ms. Brazell explained that the amendments to the by-laws were to give the Board more decision-making roles versus the EMO.	
Mrs. Stolpa reported that the changes were not to remove the EMO, but to clarify the Board processes and added that the Institute staff recommends approval of the amendments. Mr. V stated that this may be a great model for future schools. Mr. Runyan added that the amendments ensure that the proper authority rests with the Board.	
Dr. Gustafson commended Gray Collegiate Academy on the amendments and their importance.	
Mr. O'Connor moved to approve the Gray Collegiate Academy By-Laws Amendments as presented.	
Rev. Foster seconded the motion.	
The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.	
Charter Institute at Erskine Lease	**Representative: Cameron Runyan**
Mr. Runyan reviewed the history of the Institute's office space, the growth of the Institute's schools and staff, and explained the need for additional office space due to growth.	
Dr. Hellams moved to authorize Cameron Runyan to negotiate a new lease up to a $5,000 increase for additional office space as necessary.	
The motion was seconded by Rev. Foster.	
The motion was passed unanimously by roll call vote.	

Information Items

Budget Report	**Presenter: John Li**
Mr. Li presented the August financial report and current student enrollment report and reviewed both for the Board.	

Public Comments

No public comments were submitted for this meeting.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Runyan introduced two new team members, Melani Roark and Robbie Anderson.

Mr. Runyan reported that the Institute and the SC Public Charter School District (SCPCSD)have been working hard together regarding funding. The Senate adopted a resolution for an additional $34 million for the two entities and now it is in the hands of the House. Mr. Runyan and Mr. Neeley met with the Governor's staff and feel very positive about the funding and making sure all schools are fully funded.

Mr. Runyan announced that on September 15, 2020, the Instituted hosted a meeting of the staffs for the Institute and SCPCSD to memorialize the Memorandum of Understanding. This was a great event with everyone working together and he is excited about what the two organizations will be able to do and

predicted that this will change the trajectory of education in the next 18 months. Mr. Runyan thanked the Board for adopting the Memorandum of Understanding.

Dr. Gustafson thanked Mr. Runyan and Mr. Rudrapati for their hard work and thanked the staff. Dr. Gustafson added that what has been accomplished in such a short time is almost unbelievable.

Mr. Rodman inquired about the large number of students on waiting lists to get into the charter schools and wanted to know if there was anything that could be done to keep them from dropping through the cracks. Mr. Runyan stated that the virtual schools have more availability, but need to add staff to accommodate the students, and the brick and mortar schools just do not have the space for more students. More teachers are needed and even the State Department of Education's virtual learning office needs more teachers to meet their demands. It is also a matter of getting teachers that can effectively work in a virtual environment because it is so different from face-to-face teaching.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, Mr. O'Connor moved for adjournment.

Mr. Rodman seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m.