

MINUTES
Excel Academy Rhode Island Board Meeting
Friday, January 21, 2022 – 9:00 am
ZOOM

Board Members in Attendance: Mayor Maria Rivera, Channavy Chhay, Chiv Heng, Liz Giordano

Board Members Absent: Mayor Charles Lombardi, Carlene Fonseca, Mayor Jorge Elorza

Staff Attending: Owen Stearns, Arthur Kaynor, Diane Cohen, Liz Matson, Andrew Solomon, Michaelle Larracuenta, Daimar Colon, Estevan Puerta

1. Call to Order

Chhay, Vice-Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:10 am and presided over the meeting. Diane Cohen kept the minutes of the meeting.

2. Roll Call

Noted above

3. Approval of Minutes

Heng motioned to approve the minutes from the 11.16.21 meeting of the Board and Giordano seconded.

All those in favor: Mayor Maria Rivera, Channavy Chhay, Chiv Heng, Liz Giordano

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

4. Team Building

Larracuenta led the group through a team-building exercise.

5. Discussion and Action Items

a. Discussion and Action Item: Stearns shared an update on progress toward the opening of the school and work plan. Stearns briefed the board on the current status of the facilities and finance plans, new member process, and shared an invite to the Massachusetts school's Celebration of Excellence this spring. Kaynor shared a request for the board to approve a resolution to open a bank account in Rhode Island for the Rhode Island schools.

Heng motioned to approve both the resolution to open a bank account in Rhode Island and was seconded by Giordano.

All those in favor: Mayor Maria Rivera, Channavy Chhay, Chiv Heng, Liz Giordano

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

b. Discussion and Action Item: Larracuenta shared an update on hiring and progress around school programming.

c. Discussion and Action Item: Kaynor shared an overview of the research and recommendations for moving forward with a management service agreement. Kaynor highlighted key considerations and milestones as the schools work to develop an agreement with Excel as the CMO servicing Rhode Island Schools.

Heng motioned to approve the resolution on moving forward with a process to finalize a management services agreement and was seconded by Mayor Rivera.

All those in favor: Mayor Maria Rivera, Channavy Chhay, Chiv Heng, Liz Giordano

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

Discussion: Estevan Puerta and Daimar Colon discussed the Rhode Island team's approach to student recruitment and community engagement. They shared an update on the number of applications and tactics that the team is employing to increase brand recognition and increase applications.

7. Public Comment

None

8. Adjourn

Chhay closed the meeting at 10:32 am.

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from 11.16.21