

MINUTES
Excel Academy Rhode Island Board Meeting
Building Committee Meeting
Monday, December 5, 2022 – 5:00 pm
622 Woonasquatucket Ave, North Providence

Building Committee Members in Attendance: Chiv Heng, Andrew Solomon, Owen Stearns, Joseph Lewin, Chris Reed, Arthur Kaynor

Building Committee Members Absent: Mayor Jorge Elorza, Michaelle Larracuent

Non-Building Committee Board Members Present: Mayor Maria Rivera, Chhanavy Chhay, Liz Giordano

Staff Attending: Diane Cohen, Alejandra Gil

1. Call to Order

Solomon called the meeting to order at 5:11 pm and presided over the meeting. Cohen kept the minutes of the meeting.

2. Roll Call

Noted above

3. Project Updates, SBA Process, and Votes/Resolutions

Solomon shared an overview of the specifications for the 740 Plainfield site. He walked through the footprint of the site including the building, playspace, parking, and other considerations. He noted that a portion of the site is in a FEMA-designated flood zone and provided an update on steps taken to assess and mitigate potential flood risk. He shared an overview of the building floor plan and design process. He also provided an update on due diligence, timeline, and budget, as well as the SBA application process.

There was discussion of next steps in the process as well as a review of resolutions and votes under consideration.

Chiv made the following three motions, and Lewin seconded:

1. Approve recommendation to the Board to approve two resolutions (enclosed) regarding the 740 Plainfield St. property
2. Approve recommendation to the Board to approve six resolutions (enclosed) required for Excel Academy Rhode Island's SBA application
3. Approve recommendation to the Board to authorize the Chair to submit a letter of support for Excel Academy Rhode Island's Stage II SBA application on behalf of the Board

All those in favor: Chiv Heng, Andrew Solomon, Owen Stearns, Joseph Lewin, Chris Reed, Arthur Kaynor

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

4. Adjourn

Solomon closed the meeting at 5:35 pm.

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Monday, December 5, 2022 – 5:30 pm
622 Woonasquatucket Ave, North Providence

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

Board Members Absent: Mayor Charles Lombardi, Mayor Jorge Elorza, Gary Goldberg

Staff Attending: Owen Stearns, Arthur Kaynor, Diane Cohen, Andrew Solomon, Nina Keough, Alejandra Gil, Chris Reed

Members of the Public Attending: Joe Lewin

1. Call to Order

Chhay called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm and presided over the meeting. Cohen kept the minutes of the meeting.

2. Roll Call

Noted above

3. Public Comment

None

4. Approval of Minutes

Giordano motioned to approve the minutes from the 11.17.22 meeting of the Board and Fonseca seconded.

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

5. Facility Updates and Votes

Solomon provided an update on facility planning, due diligence, and the SBA application process. Giordano made the following three motions, and Chhay seconded:

1. Approve two resolutions (enclosed) regarding the 740 Plainfield St. property, as recommended by the Building Committee
2. Approve six resolutions (enclosed) required for Excel Academy Rhode Island's SBA application, as recommended by the Building Committee
3. Approve authorizing the Chair to submit a letter of support for Excel Academy Rhode Island's Stage II SBA application on behalf of the Board, as recommended by the Building Committee

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

Opposed: None

Abstain: None

6. Vote to Create an Academic Oversight Committee

Rivera motioned to approve the creation of the Academic Oversight Committee and Fonseca seconded.

All those in favor: Mayor Maria Rivera, Channavy Chhay, Liz Giordano, Carlene Fonseca, Chiv Heng
Opposed: None
Abstain: None

7. Update on the State of the School

Keough shared an update on progress in the school since the start of the year. She shared an update on professional development and operational changes that have been implemented. She shared that family conferences have been held since the last Board meeting and that families are very supportive of these changes.

8. Talent Update

Gil shared an overview of the school's talent strategy. She presented an overview of the team structure. She shared what the team is learning about the RI talent landscape. She shared some of the challenges the team is facing and their plans to address these challenges.

9. Update on Governance

Kayor shared an update that representatives from each of Excel's Boards will meet again this year to continue discussing inter-board governance topics.

10. Adjourn

Chhay closed the meeting at 6:43 pm.

List of Documents Presented at the Meeting:

1. Agenda
2. Minutes from 11.17.22
3. Resolutions related to the 740 Plainfield St. property and the SBA application process
4. Academic Oversight Committee summary