

TEACHERS ASSOCIATION OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY
2521 Riva Road, Suite L-7, Annapolis, Maryland 21401

MINUTES – Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, September 2, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the President, Russell Leone, at 5:01 p.m., by a Zoom virtual meeting.

TAAAC's Mission & Vision were read by Maureen Liakos.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Beers, Benfer, Brininger, Carr, Córdoba, Cronin, Delph, Heintz, Liakos, Ruddy, Snyder and Thumbtzen.

Also present were Ken Page, Keith Wright and Debbie Lanham.

**ADOPTION OF ORDER
OF BUSINESS**

Upon a motion by Dyana Cronin, seconded by Kate Snyder, the Order of Business was approved with flexibility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Kate Snyder, seconded by Emmanuelle Carr, the Minutes of the July 14, 2020 meeting were approved.

FINANCIAL REPORT

It was moved by Tami Thumbtzen, seconded by Dyana Cronin, to accept the August 2020 Financial Report for Audit. The motion was approved.

ACTION ITEMS

Committee Assignments - President Leone reported on the Committee Assignments. He stated that he tried to keep Board members as close as he could, but there may be some things vacant. He stated that he may be requesting Board members to reach out to some of the members on the committees to see who wants to continue.

Bylaw Amendment - MAC Committee Name - Richard Benfer brought up the discussion about the number of the directors we have currently. We have ten and changing it to 11 directors would give a liaison for the Crofton Feeder. The main thought was that we have another high school, we have another director. The only issue that he saw would be with an even number of people when voting.

It was moved by Kate Snyder, seconded by Tami Thumbtzen, to increase the at-large directors in Article VI of the Bylaws. The motion was approved.

President Leone reported that this change will go to the Bylaws Committee to look at the amendment, and then will go to the Representative Assembly.

President Leone reported that the second amendment has to do with changing the name of the Minority Affairs Committee in Article 8 under committees. The discussion concerned the merging of the MAC, Human Relations, and the Social and Justice Civil Rights Committees. He stated that he thinks we need a little more time to devote to this conversation. We can continue with the path and do not have to memorialize in the Bylaws until we continue with the conversation. It is important to get into the Bylaws eventually, but we want to do it right.

Endorsement Council Recommendations - BOE District 2 & 6

- Kate Snyder reported that she met last night with the Endorsement Council Recommendations for the Board of Education. Candidates were discussed for District 2 and 6. She stated that the meeting was interesting. We looked over comments and reports that were made originally. There was lots of debate. By the end of the meeting, the final decision was to make a recommendation for no endorsement for both races. Endorsements will be on the agenda at the September Representative Assembly.

TAAAC Work With Faith-Based Organizations - President

Leone reported that there was a discussion that came up at the Board Strategic Planning concerning partnerships that we have with faith-based roots. He asked for discussion on whether we want to continue to work with faith-based organizations.

The decision was to continue partnerships with faith-based organizations. It was suggested that we rotate where our contributions go. We need to be more inclusive, but need to

be careful of who we are partnering with right now. President Leone asked for suggestions.

RA Standing Rules - President Leone reported that the Standing Rules will be presented at the September Representative Assembly to be adopted with changes due to Virtual Meetings. Changes were reviewed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Negotiations - Keith Wright, Executive Director Page, President Leone and Vice President Snyder reported on the status of negotiations.

Organizing Plan - President Leone reported on what we can do to strengthen our Organizing Plan. Executive Director Page shared the vision. Keith Wright shared implementation and time lines. Mr. Wright reported that we will be reaching out to Representatives to attend "Build Our Base" on September 15, 2020, at 5:00 p.m.

President Leone reported that we will continue to look at our Organizing Plan, and it will be on every agenda so that we can make adjustments as we are going. It will be valuable to have everyone's input on what we are implementing.

AEL/SAAAC Work - President Leone reported that the Board won't sit down with TAAAC, AEL and SAAAC together. A joint letter went out in July and we have had continued conversations. As we have our organizing meetings, we are telling each other what we are bringing so that we have the consistent message. Our goal right now is to get a letter for The Capital around safety. This coalition is not brand new. We have put out an invitation to AFSCME.

Recording of Lessons (AACPS) - President Leone reported on the AACPS requiring recording of lessons. He stated that We have been consulting with MSEA General Council, Kristy Anderson.

Safety - President Leone reported that we are continuing to push for safety. He stated that the article to the Capital Gazette will focus on what we want to see and what we have not seen yet. We have problems with ventilation, lack of masks and social distancing.

Other Issues/Concerns - Jorge Córdoba reported on a concern about others being in attendance on the Google Classrooms.

New Teacher - Vice President Snyder reported that since we are not being allowed to be out at the New Teacher Orientation, we have decided on another plan. She stated that We have ordered all kinds of swag to put in bags. We will then do a drive by and drop off at feeder systems for new teachers to pick up. Bags will have all kinds of information. We need to pick a date to help to fill bags. Packing date will be September 19. We will work with AACPS for a Saturday distribution date.

Uniserv Update - If you are getting directives from up high, you need to send to TAAAC. Keep the information flowing.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Jorge Córdoba talked about the Town Hall and attendance of Superintendent Arlotto.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Board Meeting will be October 7, 2020, at 5:00 p.m. .

ADJOURNMENT


It was moved by Allison Heintz, seconded by Robin Beers, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Approved:



Tamara Thumbtzen, Secretary-Treasurer



Russell Leone, President

Minutes approved BOD meeting September 17, 2020

(Date)