

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—October 13, 2009

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

5:30 p.m.

224 Church Street

Nevada City, CA 95959

Council Members:

Pam Barram, Chair/Parent Representative
Melody Wilson, Vice-Chair/ Parent Representative
Kelly Chandler, Parent Representative
Sunshine Heaps, Parent Representative
Kathy Rodrigue, Parent Representative
Janice Eggers, ES Representative
Linda Hill, ES Representative
Gary Wright, Community Representative
Samantha Buck, Student Representative
Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Minutes

Present: Larry Homan, Peter Sagebiel, Sandy Saccomanno, BJ Hatcher, Paul Simoes, Gary Wright, Nancy Markson, Linda Hill, Pam Barram, Debbie Ayala-Carter, Janice Eggers, Sunshine Heaps, Melody Wilson, Samantha Buck and Nancy Nobles. Kelly Chandler arrived at 5:36. Kathy Rodrigue arrived at 5:50.

Absent:

1. **Call to Order:** 5:33 pm
2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
3. **Action: Approval of September 15, 2009 Minutes**

Sandy Saccomanno made the motion to accept the Minutes from September 15, 2009. Nancy Markson seconded.

Ayes: Six Nays: None Abstain: Three

4. **Action: Adoption of the Agenda**

Sandy Saccomanno made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Pam Barram seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

5. **Discussion: Other**

Peter Sagebiel acknowledged and thanked the retiring council members: Chair Larry Homan, ES Representative Nancy Markson and Parent Representatives Sue Barnickol and Sandy Saccomanno.

6. **Information: Introduction of new Council members** – Peter Sagebiel

Peter welcomed the new Council members and asked that they each introduce themselves. New members include: Janice Eggers, FCS Truckee site coordinator, ES and college and career counselor; Melody Wilson, FCS parent; Sunshine Heaps, FCS parent; Samantha Buck, FCS senior student; Gary Wright, community representative and Kelly Chandler, FCS Foresthill parent.

7. **Information/Action: Community Member Appointment** – Peter Sagebiel

Peter presented Gary Wright to the Council for consideration in the position of Council community representative.

Melody Wilson made a motion to accept Gary Wright as the new community representative to the Council. Linda Hill seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

8. **Information/Action: Council Election of Chair and Vice-Chair** — Peter Sagebiel

Peter and Larry Homan explained the process of electing a new chair and vice-chair for the Council. Larry asked for nominations for the positions.

Linda Hill nominated Pam Barram for the position of Council Chair; Pam accepted the nomination.

Linda Hill made a motion that Pam Barram be the new Charter Council Chair. Sandy Saccomanno seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

Discussion was held on the position of Vice-Chair. Melody Wilson offered to hold the position.

Sandy Saccomanno made a motion that Melody Wilson be the new Charter Council Vice-Chair. Linda Hill seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

9. **Information: Charter Council Overview Training and Binders** – Peter Sagebiel

Peter gave a brief explanation of the Brown Act and gave Council members a two page handout for reference. Special note was made of two points: three or more members discussing school information becomes a meeting and closed session items are confidential.

Charter Council binders were given to the new members.

10. **Information: Form 700** – Debbie Carter

Debbie presented information on Form 700 and explained to the Council that the form supports our Conflict of Interest Policy by identifying and disclosing financial interest in or around FCS. Retiring members were given a form for sign for exiting and new members were given the Form 700 packet. New members were asked to return the completed form as soon as possible to Debbie.

11. **Information/Action: Costa Rica Field Trip** — Jen Homan, Josh Miller

ESs Jen Homan and Josh Miller of the Global Studies Academy, introduced themselves and gave a presentation on the planned 2010 Costa Rica field trip for 9-12th graders. They explained that they both have extensive backgrounds in group travel and that they had taken a FCS student group to Costa Rica two years ago. They will be using Best Adventures Travel, the same tourism/guide company that they successfully used on the last trip and that the guides accompany the group throughout the trip. They explained that the trip will include community service, education and hands on experience and covered some highlights including: service projects (turtle hatching and protection, visiting local schools) and zip-lining. Jen and Josh told the Council that Costa Rica is one of the safest countries to travel in and that medical care and coverage, if needed, will be excellent.

Kelly Chandler made a motion to approve the planned Costa Rica field trip for the summer of 2010. Melody Wilson seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

12. **Information: Student Achievement** – BJ Hatcher

BJ gave an overhead projection presentation of both math and English results from the STAR Test showing positive growth for FCS students.

13. **Information: Special Education Committee for NCCC** – Peter Sagebiel

Peter reviewed for the Council information on the Charter Co-op's special education committee that is researching options for a new special education structure. Ideas include: a simple consortium; joint powers authority (JPA); host sites; Shasta County consortium. Peter said that there has been a lot of support from Holly Hermansen and Donna Fitting and he assured the Council that a good solution will be found soon.

14. Information: G.R.A.S.P. Update (Governance, Renewal, Assessment, Strategic Planning) – Peter Sagebiel – Peter Sagebiel

Peter presented to the Council that the GRASP program is coming along well. The September 28th presentation by attorneys from MYM was informative and well attended by Council members. Peter thanked everyone that attended. He reminded the Council that FCS will be receiving 75 hours of legal advice through this grant.

The next strategic planning meeting will be a day long meeting on November 9th. Peter invited all Council members to attend. If members are unavailable to attend the full day the recommendation is to attend the afternoon portion. Peter handed out the training agenda.

15. Information/Action: FCS Foundation Update – Debbie Carter

Debbie reminded the Council that they are sitting as the Foundation Board until a separate board is formed and asked if anyone had suggestions for Foundation Board members.

Debbie gave the Council members a hand-out of the foundation status and asked for approval of four checks to be paid.

Linda Hill made a motion to approve the four checks as outlined in the FCS Foundation status report for payment. Janice Eggers seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

16. Information: 2009/10 Budget Update – Debbie Carter, Peter Sagebiel

Debbie presented a draft of the 2009-10 1st Interim Budget to the Council, identifying the budget challenges schools are currently facing and how FCS is meeting these challenges.

At the November council meeting Debbie will bring the Final 1st Interim Budget for approval by the Council, which will include the budget narrative and multi-year projections.

Peter added thanks to Debbie for keeping a healthy reserve in the budget.

17. Information: SB740 Overview – Debbie Carter

Debbie presented to the Council a hand-out that explained Senate Bill 740 and gave a brief overview, explaining that the FCS budget is guided by the provisions set forth in SB740.

18. **Information/Action: Approval of Business Debit Card** –Debbie Carter

Debbie requested approval from the Council for a debit card to be used for after- hours bank deposits. She explained that sometimes there is no time to make it to the bank during business hours and with a debit card she would be able to make a deposit and obtain a printed deposit receipt.

Janice Eggers made a motion to approve a debit card. Melody Wilson seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

19. **Information: Siteline Update** – Peter Sagebiel

Peter gave a brief presentation for the new council members on Siteline Architecture. He explained that FCS has contracted with Siteline to determine our total square footage facility needs for Nevada City/Grass Valley.

20. **Action: Consent Agenda** – Debbie Carter

Linda Hill made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda new contracts and warrants. Janice Eggers seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

21. **Information: Director's Update** – Peter Sagebiel

- **Art Miles Project:** Peter acknowledged ES Valerie Stuart who organized this 2 ½ year project; a public presentation was made October 12th at the Center of the Arts which included K-12 students and was very well attended; an article with pictures will be featured in The Union; the finished Art Miles piece will be displayed in Egypt along with 5,000 other murals from 120 countries.
- **Ashland, Oregon field trip (Global Studies Academy):** The Academy successfully completed their trip to Ashland. Samantha Buck reported that they had seen four plays, bonded, and that it was very cold.
- **Enrollment:** Enrollment is continuing to build but numbers are a bit lower than had been hoped. FCS is looking at ways to promote the school to the community such as bumper stickers, etc.
- **FCS Brochure:** The present brochure is eight years old and we are in the process of updating it.
- **Other:** FCS will be paring down on off-site staff development due to budget restrictions; there will be a focus on staff development at all staff meetings. At the last staff meeting there was a well received presentation on technology including Excel, Power Point and organizing your computer.

22. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- TTUSD Update
- CAHSEE
- Intervention—CAHSEE
- 1st Interim Budget
- Fundraising/fund drive

23. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings

- 2009: November 17
- 2010: January 19, February 23, March 23, April 20, May 18, June 15

24. Action: Adjourn at 7:40 PM

Linda Hill made the motion to adjourn. Melody Wilson seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Date

Charter Council Approved:

Pam Barram, Chair

Date

Melody Wilson, Vice-Chair/Parent Representative

Date