



## Board of Directors

June 18, 2020

Members present: Karen Deighan, Mark Diamond, Cindy Hyatt, Jason Anderson, Susan Teryek

Also present: Headmaster Jim Miller, ELC Director Lisa Sargent, Office Manager Carolyn Yule, and Finance Manager Deb Gagne. Guests present included Georgene Sellinger, Hope Phillips, Carol Paolo, Jon Beam, Mary Stetson, Christina NiCastro, Kristi Nieman, Mary Stetson, Lilliana Henderson, Cheryl Martin, Kayleigh Sargent, Courtney Mitchell, Courtney Weymouth, Denise Colcord, Jill Taylor, Mary Beth Bowling, Dee DeMario, Myles Paquette, Carrie Fogg, Jennifer Smith, Andrea Prill and 2 additional unnamed.

This meeting was held via Zoom

At 6:10 while we awaited a quorum of Board members in order to begin the meeting, Mrs. Deighan explained to our visitors the plan for the meeting which was to review the criteria for school continuation and progress toward those criteria, time for public comment (1-2 minutes per speaker), and vote by the Board. If the vote is to continue operations, the public meeting would proceed. If the vote is to suspend operations, the Board would adjourn to executive session.

At 6:19, Mr. Anderson joined the meeting and it was called to order. Mr. Miller opened us in prayer.

Mrs. Deighan led the review of the criteria

1. Commitment of tuition totaling at least \$110,000: Mr. Miller reported that there are currently 6 students registered with deposit. He did not know the tuition commitment represented. Mrs. Deighan stated that if all were at full tuition that represented \$36,000 which is well below the criteria. This criterion was not met.
2. Building repairs committed to by families at the Annual Meeting would be completed: Mr. Horsken completed repairs to the playground fence and gates. Mr. Miller reports that repairs to the building have not begun; however, materials have been ordered and he has commitments from individuals to complete these repairs over the course of the next 4 Saturdays. This criterion was not technically met; however, Mrs. Deighan considered this criterion met as there is a specific plan in place.
3. Five members on the Board of Directors: Terms for Mrs. Deighan and Mr. Diamond end July 1 and neither will return. Prior efforts to secure Board members have been unsuccessful; however, two



applications were received by Mrs. Deighan at 5:37 PM on this date. As of this meeting, this criterion is not met.

4. Strategic Plan in Place: Mr. Miller submitted a draft of this plan at the May meeting. Although it has not been discussed or ratified by the Board, this criterion is considered met.

5. Mortgage Balloon Payment Met: Mrs. Deighan reported a conversation with Mr. Galenes from Peoples Bank. Although the payment is due in September, he expects that it will be delayed until spring. There is no word on refinancing and an appraisal is anticipated. This criteria was not met.

Mr. Miller commended the Board on their commitment but asked that they reconsider the timeline for making this decision. It is his opinion that the school is in a better position this June than last, the impact of the global pandemic was not taken into consideration when the timeline was set, and a cohesive administrative team is now in place to be even more effective.

Mrs. Deighan opened the floor for public comment. Meghan Johnson expressed concern that this decision was coming up quickly and unexpectedly without enough time for families to respond or process. Mrs. Bowling reminded the Board that we have been in similar situations in the past but God finds a way. She commended Mr. Miller on his leadership and the momentum he has created and praised the elementary teachers. Hope Phillips asked if masks would be required when/if students return in the fall and if the funds from the matching grant were available. Mr. Miller replied that there is no direction from the DOE regarding fall yet and the matching grant funds were expended for 19/20 operating expenses. Myles Paquette stated his intention to enroll his 2 elementary children. Mr. Miller shared written input from the Yeaton and Prill families about their support for and appreciation of Cornerstone education for their children. As a public school teacher, Denise Colcord shared her concerns about the things children are exposed to in public school and her commitment to enrolling her daughter in kindergarten at Cornerstone. Andi Prill shared her frustration that she did not feel connected, hoped there could be more organized and community events to get projects done, and her commitment to send her 2 children to Cornerstone. After several other similar comments, the Board decided to go to Executive Session at 7:30 PM

At 7:44 the Board returned from Executive Session. Mrs. Deighan reported that the motion to not open K-8 in September 2020 had passed.

Mr. Miller closed the meeting with prayer at 7:48 PM

Respectfully submitted

Cynthia L. Hyatt



## Executive Session

June 18, 2020

7:30 PM Present: Karen Deighan, Mark Diamond, Jason Anderson, Susan Teryek, Cindy Hyatt

The Board shared their thoughts on public input and acknowledged that the criteria set and reviewed since March 2020 had not been met. An expressed complicating factor was the possibility of additional Board members. Mr. Diamond made a motion seconded by Mrs. Deighan that Cornerstone K-8 not reopen in September 2020. Mrs. Deighan explained that our choices were Yes or No. If there were any qualifying factors in the decision, the vote would be no. Roll call vote resulted in Yes – 3 and No – 2.

7:44 PM Executive Session ended. Return to Public Meeting

7:58 PM Executive Session called to order by Mrs. Deighan. Present were Karen Deighan, Mark Diamond, Jason Anderson, Susan Teryek, Cindy Hyatt, Charlie Horsken, Jim Miller, Carolyn Yule, Deb Gagne, and Lisa Sargent.

Mr. Horsken opened the meeting with prayer

Mrs. Deighan recapped the public meeting for Mr. Horsken who had not been able to access the public meeting.

The Board set Friday, June 26 at 6 PM to interview potential Board members. Mrs. Deighan will contact the candidates. The interviews will be held in person at Cornerstone employing social distancing.

Mrs. Deighan will report to Peoples Bank tomorrow. Mr. Anderson will be the contact for them after that meeting.

Mrs. Deighan will email the Board applications and the protocol for dissolution.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 PM after prayer led by Mr. Miller.