

**Maine Educational Center for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing  
Governor Baxter School for the Deaf  
School Board Meeting  
Falmouth, Maine  
May 3, 2018**

**Board Present:** Jason White (Chairperson), Michelle Ames (Vice Chair), Roxanne Baker, John Shattuck, Terry Morrell, Anna Perna, Robin Foster, Emma Foster, Samantha Hebert

**Board Excused:** Amber Oakes

**Administration:** Owen Logue, Traci Drake, Karen Hopkins

**Staff:** Shana Kelley-Cohen, Jennifer McCann, Megan Kish

**I. CALL TO ORDER:** Jason White called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

**II. ANNOUNCEMENTS:** (Anna Perna) The ad hoc legislative committee is meeting Thursday at 4PM in Bangor

**III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA:** None

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS:** None

Jason expressed gratitude for the Executive Director's leadership in the passage of bill LD 1756. Roxanne expressed concern around leasing Mackworth Island buildings to non-deaf constituents as this could pose a problem for future deaf groups wanting to secure space. OJ explained that since his arrival no deaf organization has expressed interest in acquiring space. We are not in a position to not pursue occupancy when possible, yet we would always welcome any agency serving the deaf and hard of hearing population.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – April 5, 2018 amendments**

- Item V: Approval of March minutes: John Shattuck motioned, Robin Foster seconded.
- Item VI: Policy Committee Report: Terry Morrell motioned, Samantha Hebert seconded.
- Item IX: Nomination of Board Officers for 2018-2019: John Shattuck motioned, Terry Morrell seconded.

Approval of April 5, 2018 amended minutes: John Shattuck motioned, Terry Morrell seconded.  
**7 in favor. 0 opposed. 1 Abstained.**

**VI. POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT – Second reading**

Approval of policies: Roxanne Baker motioned. Robin Foster seconded.  
**8 in favor. 0 opposed. 0 Abstained.**

**VII. FY BUDGET PROPOSAL DISCUSSION – To be approved in June**

Traci Drake presented a power point presentation of the 2018-2019 budget proposal. All board members received a copy of the proposal.

## **VIII. REVIEW/UPDATE STRATEGIC PLAN**

Strategic Plan Committee will meet next month. Michelle Ames agreed to chair the committee.

## **IX. NOMINATION OF BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2018-2019**

Jason White agreed to continue as Chair. Michelle Ames is stepping down as Vice Chair. Anna Perna nominated Terry Morrell for Vice Chair. Roxanne Baker seconded the nomination. Terry Morrell declined to make a decision at this time but agreed to let Jason know before the June meeting.

## **X. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Some of the highlights**

- Appreciation for the hard work of Traci Drake and Karen Hopkins, looking forward to Rebecca Falbo's arrival.
- The credit for LD-1756 also goes to Disability Rights Maine Executive Director, Kim Moody and her staff.
- GBSD/MECDHH Senior, Taylor Gagnon, was awarded a scholarship for \$18,000 a year to attend Gallaudet University.
- Marleco Bethune's artwork will be on display in Portland City Hall. The theme of his work addresses being deaf.
- We had 2 participants, Tessa Kidwell and Bela Harnden, in the Special Olympics. Both competed and earned medals in their events. Kudos to coaches Matt Welch and Alicia Piper for their hard work.
- Terry Morrell and OJ will be attending a conference in Texas June 4-7. Terry will not be back for the June meeting but OJ will arrive in time for the board meeting.
- Continuing conversation with DOE about the need for additional staff, specifically another teacher of the deaf at East End Community School and a special education teacher with expertise in deafness.

## **XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

7:20PM

A motion to move into the Executive Session to discuss the Executive Director Evaluation per 1 M.R.S.A. § 405 (6)(A) was made by Robin Foster. Anna Perna seconded.

**All in Favor**

7:43PM

The Executive Session ended.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

7:44PM

A motion to adjourn was made by Samantha Herbert, Roxanne Baker seconded.

**All in Favor**