

MINUTES OF THE
SPECIAL MEETING OF GOVERNING BOARD, LEF
OF
WEST BROWARD COUNTY, INC.
IMAGINE CHARTER SCHOOL AT WESTON

MEETING MINUTES

Date: July 1, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

- Mr. Sandoe called the meeting to order 5:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Board members present, Patrick Sandoe, Jhanet Garcia , Rhadika Paul, Don Francey and Priscilla Prado Stroze. The following persons were also present: Paul Eichner, attorney, Jacky Vernon (Regional Director Imagine Schools) Nadine Laham (Principal), Christine LoSchiavo (Registrar), Sylvia Allen and Karen Gross (business manager).

PUBLIC NOTICE:

- Ms. Laham confirmed public notice

ISSUE TO DISCUSS: Transportation Contract

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

A1A Transportation contract has an \$18,000 increase. The county had required all private companies to increase insurance from 1 million to 3 million. State Farm dropped coverage for A1A Transportation. They had to get a new insurance carrier. The premiums increased and they passed the cost on to Imagine Weston.

Mr. Sandoe had requested some information from Ms. Laham and Ms. Vernon, before this meeting. Ms. Laham provided a copy of the issues Mr. Sandoe raised with answers/repsonses from Mrs. Vernon incorporated therein. Mr. Sandoe had asked, among other things for an evaluation of how other schools had been impacted by the increase in transportation costs.

Ms. Laham identified the list of school board approved bus companies. As of the date of the meeting, A1A Transportation was not on the list, although they expect to be placed on that list in July. Ms. Laham reached out to the school board approved suppliers for quotes.

ALWAYS ON THE GO quote is \$225/bus \$162,000.00/year for the 4 buses. ALWAYS ON THE GO serviced Imagine Weston in 2005. Have heard different things as to why we switched providers. Staff will check the former minutes for answers.

ALWAYS ON THE GO had stated that he was outbid by A1A Transportation at the time we changed companies. They currently serve the Ben Gamla charter schools in Plantation and Hollywood and several local camps. Ms Laham will contact the other school that they service to see if they are happy with their service.

A discussion ensued on the Savanna portion of the bus route. If a decision is made in the future, to phase out the Savanna buses, we will need to give the parents a year's notice. Buses in parts of Savanna are not covered by the county because they are inside the 2 mile boundary that is not paid by the State. Historically, the school incurs the cost of their transportation.

Don Francey noted that there was a \$34,000 savings between the ALWAYS ON HE GO contract and the A1A Transportation contract.

Question was raised about the issues concerning bus driver security and asked about Jessica Lundsford compliance language in the contract. Wanted to ensure that they have the information regarding the driver records etc.

The Board urged Ms. Laham to incorporate the vetted portions of the A1A contract and incorporate them into the proposed contract for ALWAYS ON THE GO.

Other suggestions were made regarding language to incorporate into the contract.

Mr. Eichner agreed to identify what we want from the AIA Transportation contract and have it added into the ALWAYS ON THE GO contract. He will work on it and get it back to Ms. Laham.

Ms. Laham and Mr. Francey agreed to go meet with ALWAYS ON THE GO transportation, if an appointment can be set up either the afternoon of July 7th or the morning of July 8th.

With an eye to future emergency meetings on this issue, and having concerns about having quorum in the middle school, Ms Laham suggested that when the middle school's meeting begins, they decide if they will vote to agree with what elementary school decides in the event that we are able to approve a new transportation contract during all the vacation times.

A follow up Special Board meeting is scheduled for July 10th at 4:00 P.M.

BOARD ACTION:

The Board gave Mr. Francey direction and Mr. Francey has agreed to assist in presenting a counter contract to ALWAYS ON THE GO TRANSPORTATION. Mr. Eichner will add salient parts of the contract into the contract that he believes should be added in.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.