

Southeastern Massachusetts Educational Collaborative Board

Minutes of June 20, 2023 Board Meeting

Meeting held by Zoom

Members Present: Rosemarie Bowman, Christopher Cotter, Ann Fernandes, Donna McKenna, Christopher Oliver, Michelle Smith, Tiffini Reedy, Sarah Rodrigues

Members Absent: Michael Shea

Vacancies: Acushnet

Staff Present: Catherine S. Cooper, Executive Director
Christopher Haraden, Director of Business
Kim Wilmot, Director of Student Services

Others Present: John Nunes, SMEC Treasurer

1. **VOTED** To approve the Minutes of the Board's May 30, 2023 meeting as submitted. Motion by Mr. Cotter, Second by Ms. McKenna.

APPROVED. Members Oliver and Smith abstained.

2. **VOTED** To receive, accept and place on file the LEA, SAIL and ADH funded staff appointments, transfers, promotions, salary adjustments, resignations, terminations, and reductions as submitted on Agenda Attachment 1. Motion by Ms. Smith, Second by Mr. Cotter.

APPROVED

3. **VOTED** The Board conducted a second reading of the proposed FY24 Spending Plan. An explanation was provided regarding the general projection of estimated overall revenue expectations and expenditures based on expected FY24 enrollment, historic and projected expenses and evolving fiscal guidance, including the current draft status of the state FY24 budget. The Board voted to approve the FY24 Projected Spending Plan totaling \$11,297,355 as shown on Agenda Attachment 3 and the FY24 revenue projection as shown on Agenda Attachment 2. Motion by Ms. Fernandes, Second by Ms. McKenna.

APPROVED

4. **VOTED** The Director of Finance and Operations provided an update on the FY23 Collaborative Spending Plan with EOY line-item adjustments but no change to the total funding level. The Board voted to approve the FY23 Amended Spending Plan as presented on Agenda Attachment 4. Ms. Smith made the motion, Second by Ms. Rodrigues.

APPROVED

5. **VOTED** To revise the Collaborative's Voluntary Unpaid Time Off employee policy as shown on Agenda Attachment 5 and Retiree Benefit Policy as presented on Agenda Attachment 6. Motion by Mr. Cotter, Second by Ms. Smith.
- APPROVED**
6. **VOTED** To allow Paraprofessionals to opt in to a 22 pay equal distribution (no lump sum) beginning in the 2023-2024 school year. Motion by Mr. Cotter, Second by Ms. Smith.
- APPROVED**
7. **VOTED** To approve the retirement of Luzia Mendonca as submitted on Agenda Attachment 7, effective August 13, 2023 and to approve her request to remain on the relevant insurance plans consistent with our retiree benefit policy. Motion by Ms. Smith, Seconded by Ms. Rodrigues.
- APPROVED**
8. **VOTED** To authorize the Executive Director and Director of Finance and Operations to take any actions they deem prudent to move forward with the acquisition and occupation of 267 Samuel Barnet Boulevard in Dartmouth, including executing a temporary lease agreement with the seller to gain access to the building on July 1, 2023 in order to begin renovations while awaiting a final closing date, or to approve an agreement for an escrow/hold back of funds from the sale in order to ensure that work required by the Dartmouth Conservation Commission (DCC) will be completed by the seller and signed off by the DCC within a reasonable period after the sale is complete. Motion by Ms. Smith, Second by Ms. Rodrigues.
- APPROVED**
9. **VOTED** To schedule the first Board meeting of FY24 for Tuesday, September 26, 2023 at 5:30.
- APPROVED**
10. **DISCUSSION** The Executive Director notified the Board that the Collaborative's Hearing on a Motion for Summary Judgement in an ongoing legal case has been rescheduled to August 24, 2023.
11. **VOTED** To adjourn at 6:03 P.M. Motion by Ms. Bowman, Second by Ms. Fernandes.

APPROVED

Respectfully submitted,
Catherine S. Cooper
Secretary to the Board