Meeting Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023
Time: 5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
Location: 81 Plantation Street, Worcester, MA 01604
Members present: Pamela Boisvert, Susan Gately, Angele Goss, Amy Herman, Stacey Luster, Debra Maddox, Jane Roseberry
Members absent: Siobhan McKenna Dennis, Bertha-Elena Rojas
Worcester Cultural Academy Staff present: Lisa DeTora
Old Sturbridge Inc. Staff present: Jim Donahue, Jamie Greenthal, Tina Krasnecky, Alex McConnon, Kara McCormick
Members of the Public Present: None

Order of Business:

1. Board Roll Call…………………………………………………………………………………………Pamela Boisvert
2. Public Comment 1 on Docketed Items*
3. Approval of minutes – May 25, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees…………………………Pamela Boisvert
   a. Motion: Vote to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees
4. Election of Officers………………………………………………………………………………………Pamela Boisvert
   a. Motion: Vote to approve election of Vice Chair
   b. Motion: Vote to approve election of Treasurer
   c. Motion: Vote to approve election of Secretary
5. Pre-Opening Updates……………………………………………………………………………………Jamie Greenthal/Lisa DeTora/Tina Krasnecky
   a. Pre-opening Procedures and DESE Compliance; Enrollment; Cultural Institutions and Museums
   b. EL Partnership; Talent
   c. Budget and Financials
6. Discussion of Management Contract……………………………………………………………………Pamela Boisvert/Tina Krasnecky
7. Additional Votes…………………………………………………………………………………………Pamela Boisvert
   a. Vote to approve the Enrollment Policy and Application for Admission
   b. Vote to approve the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Policy
   c. Vote to approve the Fingerprint-based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Policy
   d. Vote to approve the Fiscal Policies and Procedures
   e. Vote to approve the Hiring of Legal Counsel
8. Executive Session (closed to the public)……………………………………………………………Pamela Boisvert/The Board

Purpose: Pursuant to MGL c. 30A, section 21, Purpose No. 6, the Chair requests a motion to convene in Executive Session to consider the lease and value of real property if the chair declares that an open
meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Charter School: Proposed lease of property located at 81 Plantation Street, Worcester MA.

a. **Motion by Board Member:** I move that the Board vote to enter Executive Session for the purpose of considering the lease and value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Charter School, relative to the proposed lease of property located at 81 Plantation Street in Worcester.

b. **Declaration by Chair:** I do so declare and announce that the Board will be returning to Open Session upon conclusion of the Executive Session.

c. **Roll Call Vote to Enter into Executive Session** (note: all votes in Executive Session shall be by roll call).

9. Return to Public/Open Session. ................................................................. Pamela Boisvert

a. **Motion: Vote to re-enter public session**

10. Vote to approve School Building Lease .................................................... Pamela Boisvert

a. **Motion: Vote to approve School Building Lease**

11. New/other business

12. Public Comment 2* on Undocketed items*

13. Adjournment

**Documents and Exhibits:**

- 2023-05-25_WCA Board agenda_AMENDED
- 2023-04-10_WCACPS Board Meeting Minutes
- WCA Board Update on Pre-Opening_05-25-23
- 4 - WCA Bylaws_05-19-23_DRAFT
- 5 - 2023-05-25_WCA School Calendar_DRAFT
- 6 - 2023-05-25_WCA School Schedule Template_DRAFT
- 7 - 2023-05-25_Student & Teacher Schedules_DRAFT

Ms. Boisvert called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

Ms. Boisvert provided a roll call. A quorum was established.

*Public Access 1 on Docketed Items*

Ms. Boisvert asked if there were any comments from members of the public. There were none.

1. **Approval of minutes – May 25, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees.** .............. Pamela Boisvert

- **Motion: Approve the minutes of the May 25, 2023 meeting of the Board of Trustees.**

  **By:** Ms. Luster made the motion.

  **Second:** Ms. Goss seconded the motion.
All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
Motion passed.

2. **Election of Officers**

Ms. Boisvert noted the importance in moving ahead with electing three officers to the Board of Trustees. Ms. Boisvert explained that the descriptions of these roles are in the bylaws and the positions are for a one year term, to be elected annually.

**Motion:** To nominate Angele Goss for Vice Chair, Jane Roseberry for Treasurer, and Susan Gately for Secretary for the 2023 to 2024 school year.
**By:** Ms. Luster made the motion.
**Second:** Ms. Herman seconded the motion.
All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
Motion passed.

3. **Pre-Opening Updates**

Pre-opening Procedures and DESE Compliance; Enrollment; Cultural Institutions and Museums

Mr. Greenthal gave an update on the progress being made on required pre-opening procedures and his relationship with the Charter School Association and DESE.

Mr. Greenthal gave an update on the number of students enrolled and the ongoing application process.

Mr. Greenthal said working with the cultural institutions and museums to create partnerships is going well and gave details on the discussions. Discussion ensued on the unique model of Worcester Cultural Academy.

**EL Partnership; Talent**

Ms. DeTora shared a description from Expeditionary Learning (EL) and asked the Trustees what words resonated with them. The Trustees went around the room and shared what they felt was most important.

Ms. DeTora went into detail on what EL means and how student achievement is measured in three dimensions. Ms. DeTora shared examples of other EL schools in central Massachusetts. Ms. DeTora discussed the plans for working with the EL school designer. Discussion ensued.

Ms. DeTora gave an update on the EL national conference in December in Colorado.
Discussion ensued on the relationship of EL and Old Sturbridge, Inc. (OSI).

Ms. DeTora gave an update on talent, staff recruitment, the interview process, and the microlabs for the teachers.

**Budget and Financials**

Ms. Krasnecky gave highlights on the Charter School Planning (CSP) grant. Per Ms. Krasnecky, the CSP grant was approved on May 31, 2023. Ms. Krasnecky went into detail on how the budget was built to spend the funds.

Ms. Krasnecky also announced that WCA was awarded a grant from the Mifflin Fund to support building costs. The amount of the grant was $50,000.

Ms. Krasnecky gave an update on cash management. Country Bank has reviewed the WCA application and is recommending a $100,000 line of credit for WCA to their credit committee. Approval is expected by the end of June.

Ms. Krasnecky said her finance team is currently working on an updated budget as new data comes in.

4. **Discussion of Management Contract** .......................................................... Pamela Boisvert/Tina Krasnecky

Ms. Boisvert gave an update that she had met with Alyssa Hopkins (DESE) and reviewed the proposed management contract between WCA and OSI. Ms. Boisvert and Ms. Hopkins would also like feedback from the Board. Per Ms. Boisvert, the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education authorized the commissioner to approve it.

Ms. Hopkins and Ms. Boisvert discussed changing “Old Sturbridge Village” to “Old Sturbridge, Inc.” in the document. Ms. Krasnecky will work to ensure all “OSV” references are changed to OSI.

Ms. Boisvert gave an update that Ms. DeTora’s title was changed from “Principal” to “Head of School”, and she will report directly to the Trustees. Mr. Donahue is proposed as the Lead Consultant from OSI under the contract. Discussion ensued.

5. **Additional Votes** .............................................................................................................. Pamela Boisvert

a. **Motion:** Vote to approve the Enrollment Policy and Application for Admission.
   By: Ms. Gately
   Second: Ms. Roseberry

   All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
   Motion passed.
b. Motion: Vote to approve the Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) Policy.
   By: Ms. Roseberry
   Second: Ms. Goss
   All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
   Motion passed.

c. Motion: Vote to approve the Fingerprint-based Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) Policy.
   By: Ms. Luster
   Second: Ms. Gately
   All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
   Motion passed.

d. Motion: Vote to approve the Fiscal Policies and Procedures subject to the amendment.
   By: Ms. Luster
   Second: Ms. Herman
   All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
   Motion passed.

e. Vote to approve the Hiring of Legal Counsel.
   By: Ms. Luster
   Second: Ms. Goss
   All in favor. (Ms. McKenna Dennis and Ms. Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT)
   Motion passed.

6. Executive Session (closed to the public) ................................................................. Pamela Boisvert/The Board

Ms. Boisvert read the following statement: “Purpose: Pursuant to MGL c. 30A, section 21, Purpose No. 6, the Chair requests a motion to convene in Executive Session to consider the lease and value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Charter School: Proposed lease of property located at 81 Plantation Street, Worcester MA.”

Motion: I move that the Board vote to enter Executive Session for the purpose of considering the lease and value of real property if the chair declares that an open meeting will have a detrimental effect on the negotiating position of the Charter School, relative to the proposed lease of property located at 81 Plantation Street in Worcester.

By: Ms. Luster

Second: Ms. Herman
Ms. Boisvert read the following “Declaration by Chair: I do so declare and announce that the Board will be returning to Open Session upon conclusion of the Executive Session.”

Ms. Boisvert conducted a Roll Call Vote to Enter into Executive Session of the following:

Susan Gately: Yes.
Angele Goss: Yes.
Amy Herman: Yes.
Stacey Luster: Yes.
Debra Maddox: Yes.
Jane Roseberry: Yes.
(Siobhan McKenna Dennis and Bertha-Elena Rojas – ABSENT).

Ms. Maddox and Ms. McCormick left the meeting during executive session at 7:02 p.m.

9. Return to Public/Open Session Pamela Boisvert

Motion: Vote to re-enter public session and go out executive session.

Susan Gately: Yes.
Angele Goss: Yes.
Amy Herman: Yes.
Stacey Luster: Yes.
Jane Roseberry: Yes.
(Siobhan McKenna Dennis, Bertha-Elena Rojas, and Debra Maddox – ABSENT).

10. Vote to approve School Building Lease Pamela Boisvert

Motion: Vote to approve School Building Lease.

By: Ms. Roseberry
Second: Ms. Luster
All in favor. (Siobhan McKenna Dennis, Bertha-Elena Rojas, and Debra Maddox – ABSENT).

Motion passed.

7. New/other business

Ms. Boisvert noted that staff is planning for two Board meetings. The first on June 26, 2023 (part 1) and July 10, 2023 (part 2) to discuss the facilities plan. There was a discussion on conducting these meetings with a hybrid model. Ms. McConnon will work on finding options.

8. Public Comment 2 on Undocketed items*

Ms. Boisvert asked if there were any comments from members of the public. There were none.
Adjournment

Ms. Boisvert asked for a motion to adjourn.

- **Motion:** Ms. Roseberry moved to adjourn the meeting.
- **Second:** Ms. Herman seconded the motion.
- **All in favor.** (Siobhan McKenna Dennis, Bertha-Elena Rojas, and Debra Maddox – ABSENT).
- Motion passed.

Ms. Boisvert adjourned the meeting at 7:20 p.m.