

Sarasota Military Academy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

8 November, 2018

Board of Director Members' Attendance

Present:

Mr. Herb Jones, Chairman
F. Steven Herb, Esquire, Vice Chairman
Ben Knisely, COL USA (Ret), Secretary
Ms. Carter Donovan
Ms. Linda Long
Dr. Logan Malone, RADM USN (Ret)
Dr. Thomas J. McElheny
Dr. J. Robert Parkinson

Howard G. Crowell, Jr., LTG USA (Ret), Chairman, Foundation, Inc.
Frederick Derr, CAPT USN (Ret), Treasurer, Foundation, Inc.

Absent: Mr. Kimball Bobbitt, Treasurer; SMA-LTC Dr. Catherine Rodriguez, Assistant Head of School, High School Campus; SMA-LTC Ryan Lee, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus; MAJ Becky Morris, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus; SMA-CPT Terri Davis, Staff Representative for Middle School; MSG Johnny Browning, Staff Representative for High School

SMA Administrative Staff in Attendance

SMA-COL Christina Bowman, Executive Director of Schools
SMA-MAJ Steve Kok, Director of Finance
SMA-LTC Frederick Fout, Head of School, High School Campus
SMA-LTC Abby Williams, Assistant Head of School, High School Campus
LTC Ben Weiss, Commandant of Cadets – Senior Army Instructor (SAI)
SMA-LTC Pamela Donehew, Director of Literacy and IB
SMA-MAJ CJ Bannister, Chief Development Officer, SMA Foundation Inc.
SMA-MAJ Amy Mazner, Athletic Director, High School Campus
SMA-LTC Tom Vara, Head of School, Middle School Campus
SMA-LTC Lisa Currie, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus

Guests: N/A

Location: SMA High School campus. The chairman called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the 25 October 2018 meeting:

COL Ben Knisely motioned for approval of the 25 October, 2018 minutes; Vice Chairman F. Steven Herb seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Chairman Report: Chairman Herb Jones stated the importance of discussing and finalizing a Strategic Plan. He mentioned SMA-COL Christina Bowman has compiled a rough draft and inquired to the board if there are any changes or additional items to be included. The board discussed the inclusion of a future elementary school to the Strategic Plan in which the board concluded that at this time, an elementary school can be part of a ten to fifteen year plan that may be in conjunction with another existing school.

Vice Chairman Herb stated that a distinction of our vision and the Strategic Plan must be created. Dr. Tom McElheny explained that a vision should be grand with one to three sentences describing where we are going as an Academy. He further explained goals should be broken up to one to three years, three to five years, five to seven years with an academy wide dream goal over seven years.

SMA-COL Bowman discussed her vision of an elementary school in ten years and the enrollment numbers increase for next year. She explained her concerns with the high school campus remaining at the downtown location and the missed opportunity for enrollment within the increased growth out east. SMA-LTC Fred Fout further expressed concerns with the limited space to expand our campus and the current conditions sports and military teams play and fight for space to conduct practices and games. Ms. Carter Donovan agreed with their concerns in stating that the high school has outgrown its current facility and that it needs to be placed as a short term goal.

The board further discussed how to differentiate between the Strategic Plan and the Vision Statement with short and long term goals. SMA-MAJ Steve Kok provided a rough cost analysis on the expansion of our current high school campus with an additional building and parking garage. He explained costs with the exclusion of any playing fields. SMA-MAJ Kok proposed a few suggestions with a cost breakdown of campus locations. Chairman Crowell stated this location may not be satisfactory for the future and the need to create a structure that will support our vision. Chairman Jones agreed by stating that no more building will be done at the downtown location. SMA-LTC Fout assured that programs will be maintained and fostered until our long term vision can be supported.

Ms. Carter Donovan motioned to commit and proceed to establish relocating our facility to support our long term vision and mission; COL Ben Knisely seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Vice Chairman Herb stated the motion should be cited within the Strategic Plan. Dr. McElheny stated the Strategic Plan Committee should define phase one of the vision and constructively put phase two together. SMA-COL Bowman stated she will set up the next Strategic Plan Committee meeting.

Executive Director of School Report:

SMA-COL Christina Bowman updated the Board on Max Nevelus and discussed the therapists and therapy dogs that were present to assist our cadets and staff with the grieving process. She commended our leadership team and their ability to bring our school together during this difficult time.

SMA-COL Bowman mentioned the schedule of events for the Veterans Day Parade on the 11th of November and the Military Ball on the 17th of November.

Treasurer's Report: SMA-MAJ Steve Kok provided a read-ahead report. He discussed the financials for September. Vice Chairman Herb motioned to approve financials provided; COL Knisely seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

Public Comments: N/A

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 3:56 pm.



Mr. Herb Jones, Chairman

12/13/2018
Date



COL Ben Knisely, Secretary

12/13/2018
Date