

Sarasota Military Academy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

10 October, 2019

Board of Director Members' Attendance

Present:

Mr. Herb Jones, Chairman
Ben Knisely, COL USA (Ret), Secretary
Mr. Kimball Bobbitt, Treasurer
Ms. Carter Donovan
Ms. Linda Long

Howard G. Crowell, Jr., LTG USA (Ret), Chairman, SMA Foundation Inc.

Absent: F. Steven Herb, Esquire, Vice Chairman; Dr. Thomas J. McElheny; Frederick M. Derr, CAPT USN (Ret), Treasurer, SMA Foundation Inc.; SMA-LTC Pamela Donehew, Director of Literacy and IB; SMA-MAJ Steve Kok, Director of Finance; SMA-MAJ Amy Mazner, Athletic Director, High School Campus; SMA-LTC Ryan Lee, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus; SMA-MAJ Leslie Smith, Athletic Director, Middle School Campus; SMA-CPT Bryan Burns, Prep Faculty Rep

SMA Administrative Staff in Attendance

SMA-COL Christina Bowman, Executive Director of Schools
SMA-COL Frederick Fout, Head of School, High School Campus
LTC Ben Weiss, Commandant of Cadets – Senior Army Instructor
SMA-LTC Abby Williams, Assistant Head of School, High School Campus
SMA-LTC Dr. Catherine Rodriguez, Assistant Head of School, High School Campus
SMA-COL Tom Vara, Head of School, Middle School Campus
SMA-LTC Lisa Currie, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus
MAJ Becky Morris, Assistant Head of School, Middle School Campus
SMA-MAJ Dr. Todd Brown, Director of Outreach

Guests: Members of the SMA faculty, staff and PTCC representatives.

Michele Collins, HS PTCC President; c/COL Juliana Rendle, Regimental Commander; SMA-CPT Jennifer Vanston, High School Faculty Rep; SMA-MAJ Sylvia Gillotte, English Department Chair, High School campus; SMA-CPT Katherine Martin, English Language Arts Teacher, High School campus; SMA-MAJ Regina Wolfgang, Math Teacher, Middle School campus; Mr. Fletcher

Location: SMA High School campus.

The chairman called the meeting to order at 2:34 pm.

Motion to Approve the Minutes from the 12 September, 2019 meeting:

COL Ben Knisely moved to approve the 12 September, 2019 minutes subject to change mentioned; Chairman Herb Jones seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Introduction: LTC Ben Weiss introduced Regimental Commander c/COL Juliana Rendle for receiving the Legion of Valor Bronze Cross for Achievement ROTC Award and discussed the importance of this honor. Ms. Rendle thanked the board and stated her hopes to enroll at The U.S. Military Academy at West Point or pursue ROTC scholarships.

SMA-COL Christina Bowman introduced Mr. Fletcher to discuss his appraisal report of 801 N. Orange Avenue to the board. He explained the various values and zoning restrictions. COL Knisely stated he disagreed with the appraisal report.

Executive Director of School Report: SMA-COL Bowman provided a read-ahead report. She discussed the enrollment numbers for both schools and the Strategic Planning Committees meeting regularly. SMA-COL Bowman inquired to the Board as to their attendance at the Veterans Day Parade and if they will be walking or riding in a vehicle. Chairman Jones requested all board members to attend.

SMA-COL Bowman requested the board to approve the Active Assailant Plan.

COL Knisely moved to approve the Active Assailant Plan; Ms. Linda Long seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA-COL Bowman requested the board to approve the 2019-2020 School Improvement Plan and Implementation.

Ms. Carter Donovan moved to approve the 2019-2020 School Improvement Plan and Implementation; Ms. Long seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Community Outreach Director Report: Dr. Todd Brown provided a read-ahead report. He discussed the SDG Summit Trip in China and the differences between our school and the school he visited in Shekou. Dr. Brown discussed the impressive panel of Operation Outbreak with Dr. Sabeti added this year as well as National Geographic being sent to all middle schools discussing Dr. Sabeti and Operation Outbreak. He stated that Project Inspire and Operation Outbreak are spring boarding into the international spotlight. Chairman Jones inquired as to how to create pre-event awareness in which SMA-COL Bowman responded that a meeting has been set up with Dr. Bowden and Dr. Brown.

Technology Report: A read-ahead report was provided.

SMA Prep Head of School Report: SMA-COL Tom Vara provided a read-ahead report. He discussed a successful epaulet ceremony and cadets of the month as well as continued lockdown drills and updating safety protocol. SMA-COL Vara mentioned a large turnout for the enrollment meeting and great feedback from the Third Thursday Donor tour with SMA-COL Bowman. He

mentioned MAJ Becky Morris doing a great job in understanding the numbers and analyzing data of test scores. SMA-COL Vara discussed special events being held to include the Hispanic population into SMA culture.

SMA Prep Athletics Report: SMA-CPT Smith provided a read-ahead report and SMA-COL Vara mentioned that basketball tryouts are next week.

MYP: SMA-LTC Lisa Currie provided a read-ahead report. She stated that Dr. Brown is attending with her to the FLIBS conference in Florida. SMA-COL Bowman commended SMA-LTC Currie on the huge effort in the soft launch of SMA's new website.

SMA Head of School Report: SMA-COL Fred Fout provided a read-ahead report. He announced SMA hosting the district volleyball game at the prep and read to the board a testimonial on the exemplary behavior of our cadets at the Sarasota Lantern Water Festival.

SMA HS Athletics Report: SMA-MAJ Amy Mazner provided a read-ahead report.

IB Report: SMA-LTC Pamela Donehew provided a read-ahead report.

SAI/Commandant's Report: LTC Ben Weiss provided a read-ahead report. He stated the upcoming trips to The U.S. Military Academy at West Point at the end of October and to The Naval Academy in mid-November. He stated the trip to Tallahassee is postponed to the second semester.

Staff Representatives: SMA-CPT Jennifer Vanston provided a read-ahead report. She stated that all concerns were shared with administration and a restorative circle was done. SMA-CPT Bryan Burns had nothing to report.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Kimball Bobbitt and SMA-MAJ Steve Kok provided a read-ahead report. Mr. Bobbitt discussed the current financials by campus and the projected budget breakdown. He explained the drastic reduction in funding for exceptional students in which SMA-COL Bowman included the state has changed the funding to be broken down by resources and not the overall student and the ESE liaison is doing well in recoding our students.

Ms. Long moved to approve the board to move forward to obtain line of credit of 500K to bank; COL Knisely seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

PTCC Report: Ms. Michele Collins provided a read-ahead report and stated the goal to advertise the PTCC more. COL Knisely thanked Ms. Collins for all her time and efforts.

Foundation, Inc.: Chairman Howard Crowell mentioned actively seeking a fundraiser and interviews will be completed by mid-November.

Committee Reports: SMA-COL Bowman stated the three committees have met and formulated strategic goals and objectives. SMA-LTC Abby Williams provided an update on the Funding Committee with two strategic goals, one developmental goal, one facilities goal and an objective to increase FTE by 10%.

SMA-LTC Currie provided an update on the Recruit and Retention Committee with ideas in organizing constituents in the community, pulling Dr. Brown in at the global level and

recruitment and retention of teachers and cadets. She stated a finalized report will be provided at the next board meeting.

SMA-COL Bowman provided an update on the Academic Excellence Committee with four areas and patterns that will be analyzed in data, culture with shared values and mission, literacy and professional development. She stated a finalized report with goals will be provided at the next board meeting.

Chairman Jones provided an update on the Recruit and Retention of Board Members Committee stating a meeting will be scheduled.

LTG Howard Crowell discussed with the board the need to consider other options with the facilities at 801 N. Orange Avenue. Ms. Long recommended strategic plans for academic achievement is needed for attaining desired cadet population. SMA-COL Bowman suggested understanding and determining who SMA is and what has SMA done well and then building upon that. SMA-COL Fout explained that intensive reading and Algebra A and B are classes that are maxed and that a high number of cadets need resources.

Ms. Donovan moved to approve to explore options to upgrade and renovate property on 801 N. Orange Avenue; COL Knisely seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

Chairman: N/A

Old Business: N/A

New Business: N/A

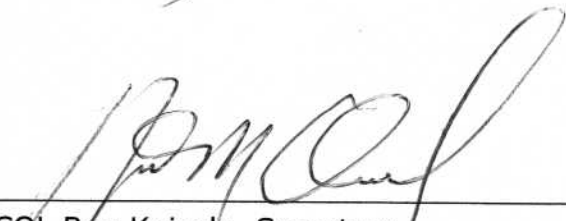
Public Comments: SMA-MAJ Sylvia Gillotte stated programs need to be enhanced before buildings in which LTG Crowell replied that old buildings can't be marketed and the day to day maintenance costs are too high.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 5:16 pm.



Mr. Herb Jones, Chairman

11/14/2019
Date



COL Ben Knisely, Secretary

11/14/2019
Date