

Sarasota Military Academy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

7 MARCH 2023

Board of Director Members' Attendance

Present:

Thomas J. McElheny, EdD, Capt, USMC (Former Marine), Chair
Scott Lempe, Lt Col, USAF (Ret), Vice Chair/Treasurer
Ben Knisely, COL, USA (Ret), Secretary
Erica Gregory, Lt Col, USAF (Ret)
Heather Koester
Linda Long
Peter Skokos
Richard Swoope, COL, USA (Ret)
Jim Tollerton

Herb Jones, Vice Chair, SMA Foundation Inc.
J. Allison Archbold, Trustee, SMA Foundation Inc. (virtual)

Absent: Brian Crupi, LTC, USAR; Cynthia West, RN Lt, USA (Ret); SMA-LTC Abby Williams, Assistant Head of High School; SMA-MAJ Lisa Currie, Assistant Head of Middle School; MAJ Becky Morris, Assistant Head of Middle School; SMA-MAJ Leslie Smith, Athletic Director, Middle School; Jeanine Signorelli, PTCC President

SMA Administrative Staff in Attendance:

SMA-COL Christina Bowman, Chief Executive Officer/Interim Head of High School
SMA-LTC Caitlin West, Assistant Head of High School (virtual)
MAJ Clarence Arrington, Senior Army Instructor
SMA-LTC Steve Kok, Director of Finance
MSG Teddy Grace, (Ret) Athletic Director, High School (virtual)
SMA-COL Tom Vara, Head of Middle School

Guests in Attendance: SMA-CPT George Barbaresi, HS Faculty Representative

Location: SMA Middle School

The chair called the meeting to order at 4:34 pm.

Chair Thomas McElheny started the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion to Approve the 7 February 2023 Minutes:

COL Ben Knisely moved to approve the 7 February 2023 minutes; Ms. Linda Long seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

SMA Foundation: Vice Chair Herb Jones discussed the resignation of the Executive Director of the Foundation. He recommended approval of new chair and vice chair/treasurer at the next board meeting.

Chief Executive Officer/Head of High School Report: SMA-COL Christina Bowman provided a read-ahead report. She discussed the updates to the expectations of the cadets and families by forming a student expectations committee to create new policies for next year. SMA-COL Bowman stated a visit to the MacDill Air Force Base on 13 April and the Rise & Run on 11 March. She commended a successful and fun at the circus for SMA Night and SMA awarded the education Leadership Award at Manatee Tiger Bay.

High School Athletics Report: A read-ahead report was provided. MAJ Clarence Arrington stated that three wrestlers qualified for States and all placed.

Head of Middle School Report: SMA-COL Tom Vara provided a read-ahead report.

Middle School Athletics Report: A read-ahead report was provided. SMA-COL Tom Vara stated that the middle school boys' soccer team are the league championships.

SAI Report: MAJ Arrington provided a read-ahead report. He stated that the leadership boards for next year's Regimental Staff is 8 March with the selection after Spring break. MAJ Arrington mentioned two upcoming trips to the National Flight Academy and the Coast Guard. He stated the Change of Command Ceremony is 6 April and the Change of Responsibility Ceremony is 13 April.

Treasurer's Report: SMA-LTC Steve Kok provided a read-ahead report. He discussed the year-to-date profit and loss per campus and the change in FTE numbers for the second semester. Vice Chair Scott Lempe discussed the financials after ESSER funds have been exhausted with recommendations on increasing enrollment and maximizing class sizes.

Staff Representatives: SMA-CPT George Barbaresi stated no concerns at this time.

PTCC Report: N/A

Committee: N/A

Chair Report: Chair Thomas McElheny recommended a suggestion box at each school with a staff member to manage other than either heads of school. He announced the resignation of board of director, Jim Tollerton, at the end of the fiscal year.

Old Business: Chair McElheny proposed to the board to endorse new organizational chart.


Ms. Heather Koester moved to approve the academy superintendent position and the organizational chart as a living document to finalize organizational chart after superintendent has been chosen; Mr. Jim Tollerton seconded the motion and the board unanimously approved.

New Business: N/A

Public Comments: N/A

The next board meeting will be on 11 April 2023 at 2:30 pm at the High School campus.

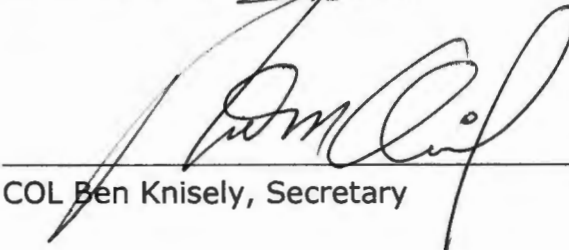
The chair adjourned the meeting at 5:53 pm.



Dr. Thomas McElheny, Chair

4/11/23

Date



COL Ben Knisely, Secretary

4/11/23

Date