



**Amber Charter School
March Board Minutes
March 13, 2024**

MEETING CHAIR:

Dr. John Gutierrez

MEETING SCRIBE:

Rose Castillo

MEETING LOCATION: Kingsbridge Elementary, 3120 Corlear Avenue, Bronx, NY 10463

ATTENDANCE:

Board: Amador Centeno, Tim Day, Robyn Epps, Dr. John Gutierrez, Luina Muñoz-BlueSpruce, Kim Ramos, Li'Esha Garcia, Lindsay Marino Long

Staff: Veronica Almedina, Rose Castillo, Sashemani Elliott, Kirsys Gomez, Emily Griffin

Absent: Dr. Miguelina German, Soledad Hiciano, Brad Olsen, Khiera Peña

Call to Order

John called the meeting to order at 6:25 pm

I. Motion to approve the Workplace Violence Prevention Policy

- Move: John
 - Second: Leisha
 - Aye: All
 - Nay: None
 - Abstain: None
-
- We created a workplace violence policy for employees, consultants, and vendors. The policy statement will be posted at our staff lounges. It is part of the new labor law. We will assess risk and implement controls to keep people safe. We will also train staff via self-directed learning.

II. Development Committee- Spring Fundraiser

- The date for the spring fundraiser has been confirmed. The space is free and convenient (by Grand Central). The proposed date is June 13th. We can invite

up to 70 people, and each board member should work to invite 5 people. The fundraising goal is \$30K.

III. Co-CEO Report - Reported by Co-CEOs

- We highlighted a picture of the Kingsbridge Middle School Student Government with Judge Ali. Students debated on why they should follow the wellness policy.
- Video from Pix11 highlighting Amber East Harlem.
- East Harlem enrolled 14 asylum families; currently, we have 6 and may be losing 2 more. Their time in the shelters has reached its limit.
- Public School admission letters arrived. Students have been accepted into Beacon High School, Bronx High School of Science, Gramercy Arts, Talent Unlimited, and the High School of Fashion Industries. We are proud of all of our students and are working to help families consider their options.
- The migrant shift is at the end of billing, which doesn't affect us as much financially. East Harlem was the biggest hit.
- The finance committee approved filling our Form 990 & CHAR500 to disclose our grants and donors.
- We applied for the Summer Boost funding and are being more conservative with the budget numbers. 28 staff members have signed up.
- East Harlem asbestos abatement was completed during the February break. We're working on scheduling the stairs for the April break.
- In Inwood, we brought back vendors and experts to examine issues in the space and help us determine the work and repairs that are needed.

IV. Board Chair Report

- Mid-year board goal review-
 - We established goals at last year's retreat.
 - Goal 1: We haven't moved on this. This didn't happen because of the time to decide what to do regarding KB ES/MS. The board didn't have the bandwidth to do both things. The EH building is standing and doing well. Decisions need to be made about its future.
 - Goal 2: Consider our event this year as a lower-level opportunity to cultivate connections for next year's big event.
 - Goal 3: Miguelina and John are part of the nominating committee. We have brought in one new trustee. Miguelina and John met with a new potential board member, but she said this was not the right time. We are still looking for additional board members, specifically those with Middle School backgrounds.
- Due to the Eid al-Fitr holiday, the Board Chair reported that the next meeting is April 17th in Inwood.

V. Motion to approve the February 2024 meeting minutes

- Move: Amador
- Second: Tim
- Aye: All
- Nay: None
- Abstain: None

VI. Motion to adjourn the meeting

- Move: Li'Esha
- Second: Lindsay
- Aye: All
- Nay: None
- Abstain: None

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM