

Arizona School for the Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Zoom Online Conference
March 30, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.

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<i>Present: (voting members in bold)</i>					
Javier Cárdenas, President	P	Anthony Dietz, Vice President	P	Carlos Contreras, Secretary/Treasurer	P
Ed Novak, Past President	P	John Snider	P	Alexander Laing	P
Betty Hum	P	Marcia Mintz	P	Kevin Allen	A
David Garcia	P	Allison Otu	P	Karen Lugosi	P
Ed Finn	P	Eden Lewkowicz, Honorary Academic Faculty	P	Dana Bender, Honorary Arts Faculty	P
Emma Popish, Honorary Alumni Member	P	Leah Fregulia, Head of School/CEO	P	Marion Donaldson, Development & Marketing Director	P
Sara Maline Bohn, Principal	P	Jessica Wooley, Executive Assistant	P	Rich Newman, ASA Parent and Facilities Committee Member	P
Heidi Jannenga, Prospective Board Member	P				

Call to Order

Javier Cárdenas, Board President, called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

Mission Moments

Javier acknowledged the TedTalk presentation from ASA 7th grade student Olneya Fong, regarding wasting food, and encouraged the Board to watch the video recording of the presentation. Ed Novak then gave recognition to the ASA Mock Trial and their recent success at the regional competition. Ed shared photos of the winning team and of junior Claire Novak, who received a personal award at the competition.

Discussion Items

Javier began the meeting by opening the floor to discussion of the Annual Parent Meetings.

When discussing the OCSA article, Leah shared that three years ago ASA Senior Leadership visited OCSA. Since that visit, ASA has used OCSA to model Annual Parent Meetings.

John Snider reviewed last month’s financials with the board, sharing that ASA will end the school year in the positive, even if we fall short of the original forecast. In terms of budget planning for the upcoming school year, John explained that the Finance Committee will review the first draft of the budget in April, but expects the budget to remain largely the same. Allison Otu asserted that ASA’s financial stability is important and should be shared with the ASA families and community in order to alleviate any fears or concerns.

Javier then asked the Honorary ASA Faculty members to share their experience with online teaching thus far. Dana Bender, Honorary Arts Faculty, shared that arts faculty are working on alternative ways to engage students since in-person rehearsals are no longer possible. Dana also shared that the Chamber singers are organizing a virtual choir piece that is being recorded and edited by ASA students and will be shared in the upcoming weeks.

Eden Lewkowicz, Honorary Academic Faculty, shared that high school teachers had previously been utilizing online programs, such as Canvas, which has made the transition to online teaching much easier. Eden expressed the desire to streamline the technology being used to teach online so that students are not expected to use a variety of unfamiliar programs. Additionally, Eden noted that students cannot be expected to be available to log on at the same time every day for online instruction. This has led high school teachers to shift their focus to finding new

ways to deliver content through familiar programs such as Canvas and Discovery Learning. In Eden’s words, this is a “manageable challenge, embraced with creativity”.

Emma Popish, Honorary Alumni Member and Academic Faculty, shared that the biggest challenge so far for middle school students has been emotional and social connections. In attempt to bridge this gap, Emma has begun hosting small lunch time group sessions, which students can sign up for, that provide her the opportunity to check in on the emotional/social needs of her students.

Sara Maline announced that ASA faculty reached out to families with two or more students regarding the need for additional devices and in result over 100 chromebooks were checked out for student use. Additionally, Drew Maxwell is extending himself to faculty and families to assist and troubleshoot technology needs during this time.

In regards to upcoming events such as Prom, Graduation, Showcase, Spirit Weeks, etc. Leah shared the intention to reimagine these events virtually to allow students to participate in these important ASA traditions despite physical limitations.

Javier introduced Heidi Jannenga, who was present as a prospective Board member. Heidi is a physical therapist and her addition to the Board would provide prospective and insight as both a health care professional and community member. Betty Hum then shared the current Governance Committee priorities, the most urgent being recruiting two new members to replace Javier Cardenas and Ed Novak, who roll off of the Board in June. Because the process of adding new Board members can be long and extensive, Betty hopes to begin the process as soon as possible. The Governance Committee plans to have a meeting with Heidi in the upcoming week, followed by a nomination in April so that paperwork can begin by July 1st. Additionally, Betty shared that she is creating a new Board member orientation checklist as well as working to streamline the Head of School evaluation process.

Javier announced that while the ASA Capital Campaign is on hold, the school will continue to work on strengthening relationships with arts community partners. Leah will continue to meet with Phoenix Youth Arts Collective partners and will assess how ASA can support their needs during this time.

Lastly, Javier acknowledged Rich Newman, ASA parent and Facilities Committee Member, for his hard work and contribution to the Phoenix Youth Arts Campus planning. Rich has been a major asset to the Facilities Committee and brings with him valuable experience as both a contractor and architect.

Action Items

Approval of February 24, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Tony Dietz moved to approve. The motion was seconded by Allison Otu and passed unanimously. (Cárdenas, Dietz, Contreras, Novak, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Garcia, Out, Lugosi and Finn voting in favor.)

Adjournment

Allison Otu made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Betty Hum and passed unanimously. (Cárdenas, Dietz, Contreras, Novak, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Garcia, Out, Lugosi and Finn voting in favor.)

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on this date 4/27/2020.

By: Carlos Contreras Board Member.