



Arizona School for the Arts

Board of Directors Minutes

Monday, October 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: 886 8046 4222 Passcode: G3aT2W

| Attendance (voting Members in bold) | | | | | |
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| Dr. Anthony (Tony) Dietz, President | P | Carlos Contreras, Vice President | P | Dr. David Garcia, Secretary/ Treasurer | P |
| Dr. Javier Cárdenas, Past President | P | John Snider, FIC Chair | P | Alexander Laing | P |
| Betty Hum, GC Chair | P | Marcia Mintz | A | Kevin Allen | A |
| Allison Otu | P | Karen Lugosi | P | Dr. Ed Finn | P |
| Dr. Heidi Jannenga | P | John O'Neal (Pending) | P | Ricky Livoni, Honorary Academic Faculty | A |
| Aaron Thacker, Honorary Arts Faculty | P | Jesús Lopez, Honorary Alumni | A | Leah Fregulia, Head of School/ CEO | P |
| Sara Maline Bohn, Principal | P | Elizabeth (Liz) Clark, Vice Principal | P | Monica Anthony, Arts Director & VP of Student Services | P |
| Dr. Drew Maxwell, Operations Director | P | Leslie Tan Religioso, Development & Marketing Director | P | Carolyn Smith, Executive Assistant | P |

| Agenda Items |
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| Call to the Public |
| Mission Moment – Alumni Spotlight |
| Board Recognition |
| Discussion Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource Development Committee Fundraising • Development Dashboard • School Opening plans – Q2 and S2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Planning Rationale ○ Priorities ○ Timelines for Decision Making ○ On-campus Activities in Q2 • Health and Wellness Council Update • Equity Commitment Update |
| Reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Audit FY20 (draft) ○ Enrollment Stability Grant ○ Bond Update • Facilities Committee • Technology Committee • HOS Report - Strategic Planning |
| Further Trainings |

- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Action Items

- Approval of September 21, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Approval of Cancellation of Spring Break 2021 European Trip (postponed from Spring 2020)

The Board of Directors may vote to hold an executive session for the purpose of obtaining legal advice from the Board's attorney on any matter listed on the agenda pursuant to: ARS §38-431.03 (A)(3) Legal Advice

Minutes

Board President Dr. Anthony (Tony) Dietz called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Call to the Public

Tony then made a call to the public for comment on the agenda items, reviewing the rules for public comment under Open Meeting law and requesting that those who wish to speak enter their name in Chat to be called upon. He then opened the floor for comments:

Jessica Elder, ASA Teacher & Parent, thanked the Board for making decisions for the whole quarter because it allows her as a teacher and a parent to plan. She is hearing some nightmare stories from colleagues who teach elsewhere who are not able to plan like she can. She does not know if this type of decision making will continue in the future, but she just wanted to voice her appreciation.

There was no further public comment.

Mission Moment

Tony then introduced Rev. Andria Davis as the Mission Moment – Alumni Spotlight guest speaker. A 2006 graduate of ASA, Rev. Andria did her undergraduate work at Smith College and then received her Master's in Theology from Chicago Theological Institute where she is now pursuing her Doctor of Ministry in Preaching and is also currently an Associate Pastor at Cathedral of Hope Church of Christ in Dallas, TX.

Rev. Andria discussed how the foundations for her academic and professional achievement were laid at ASA, dividing the timeline into a pre- and post-COVID world. Pre-COVID, ASA was essential to her academic success forming critical thinking skills and intellectual curiosity because of ASA's small classes and emphasis on engagement. Andria's junior year presentation on *A Handmaiden's Tale* led her to read the Bible then to further Bible study and her current course in life. In the post-COVID world, ASA taught Andria necessary multidisciplinary skills; she knows how to create feeling and movement because she knows music and production. Many ASA alums are involved in church work, and over the past several months they have found opportunities to connect and resource one another. In closing Andria offered some advice going forward in this time of COVID: it is a time of profound collective grief and loss, now is the time that we have to make some really tough decisions to move forward, and instead of looking back to what was, now is the time to make radical change and this is a time for ASA to thrive. Andria also offered her church as an outlet for our students to show their arts as well as a resource to help lift them up.

Board Recognition

Instead of one particular Board member, Tony acknowledged then entire Board. After each member has met with Leah Fregulia, ASA has financial commitments from the Board in excess of \$75,000.

Discussion Items

- Dr. Javier Cárdenas reviewed some of the ideas and commitments by the Resource Development Committee to help raise funds for the school including two salons focused on the Arizona Tax Credit and individual thank you calls from Board members. RDC is focused on working with past and current donors but also developing new donors through the New Parent Meeting. Leslie Religioso then talked about family connections through parent engagement groups and hopes that our outreach to alumni during the 25th anniversary will inspire more giving.
- Leah reviewed the rationale, priorities and timelines that are going into the planning of the next decision point for opening the school. The curriculum is being shaped for the different types of openings which are dependent on the prevailing health conditions at decision point and also with respect to the fact that some teachers and students will not return to campus because of health and safety reasons. Faculty are part of the Return to Campus Committee and the Health and Wellness Council so their voices are represented. If/when the decision

is made to return to campus, communications to faculty and families/students is extremely important including orientations to emphasize health and safety protocols and their roles in maintaining these standards. Leah briefly went over the timeline for decisions, modeling and communications up to the November 23rd Board meeting and following the decision point to allow for preparations for possible hybrid opening for 2nd semester. Carlos Contreras asked the criteria for allowing certain groups back on campus during the 2nd quarter; Leah explained the criteria including the group being small and manageable enough to allow to test protocols and student need. Carlos recommended that these criteria be part of the communications the school makes to families so they understand the priorities. Dr. Drew Maxwell then gave a short overview of the student activities that have begun on campus including some musical groups and classes as well as academic support; the social and emotional support among students is important and well as teachers being able to become more comfortable with the concept of safely coming back to campus.

- Javier emphasized that the focus of the Health and Wellness Council is predominately health conditions in the area as part of their recommendations. The HWC consists of several excellent healthcare professionals to help assess the data. The Council is aware that the decision to reopen is not simply made on data alone and they are conscious that their recommendations are one of several factors when the decision is made to reopen or not. Dr. Heidi Jannenga added that she was very glad a teacher was added to the HWC and that he was able to express the fears of his colleagues. Dr. Hazem Hnaide will be speaking to the faculty as a frontline infectious disease specialist to help answer their questions. Allison Otu questioned whether we should be looking at this as a more long-term issue. Javier agreed that this is more of a life-altering event and that as a Board, decisions should be more far-reaching, dependent on science, to help prevent staff burn-out. We have to prepare for fluctuations.
- Leah then shared progress made on ASA's Equity Commitments including ongoing translation of school documents such as communications and admissions documents accomplished by members of staff and a parent volunteer. ASA has also secured Linda Walton, an outside consultant to review ASA policies and provide Leadership and Board training.

Reports

- John Snider reported for the Finance Committee. Student enrollment is within our budgeted amount, while revenues are a little down so are our expenditures, so it is balancing out. Audit is complete save a couple of supplemental schedules; the state has pushed back the deadline to mid-December. Liz Shaw explained that the state funding is coming in at a lower rate usually paid to online schools through the 40th day of school since the ASA is only providing online instruction right now; the Enrollment Stability Grant will make up for the shortfall with the funding in December. The state will review our online instruction numbers again at the end of the school year. John invited Marc Wancer from EFF to inform the Board that his company has lowered the rate of our bonds from 4.10% to 3.70% retroactively to this summer when ASA refinanced our Bonds with EFF; this will net the school \$20k-\$25k per year.
- Facilities Committee met with architects to discuss options for building shade outside to allow for outdoor instruction. The 3rd Street Improvement Plan has been delayed by the City until Spring.
- Technology has been added to some classrooms to facilitate online instruction even if we come back to a hybrid model.
- Dr. David Garcia gave a short overview of the Strategic Plan and its emphasis on equity and diversity including in hiring practices as well as sustainability and remaining competitive as in the area of teacher salaries and taking care of part-time staff. The plan sets ambitious goals despite COVID, and the school is looking forward.

Further Training

Leah instructed the Board on their responsibilities to keep any personal student information they are exposed to as members of the Board of Directors strictly confidential under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Since ASA is a small community, students can be identified even through oblique reference.

Action Items

Approval of Minutes – September 21, 2020

Betty Hum moved to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from September 21, 2020. The motion was seconded by David Garcia and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Contreras, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of Cancellation of Spring Break 2021 European Trip

Leah gave the background information that this was the trip planned for Spring 2020 but was postponed due to the COVID-19 outbreak. It needs to be cancelled altogether at this point because conditions will probably not be more favorable this coming Spring and there is a deadline to get any money back. Ramon Miranda, Faculty Advisor for the trip explained that the families that are still enrolled in the trip will receive approximately 50% of the cost and an airline voucher. Tony said that since the Board initially approved the trip, the Board will need to approve cancellation.

Javier Cárdenas moved to cancel the Spring Break 2021 trip to Europe. The motion was seconded by Carlos Contreras and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Contreras, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Adjournment

Ed Finn made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Contreras, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on: 11/23/2020

Signed by:  _____, Board Member