



Arizona School for the Arts

Board of Directors Minutes

Monday, January 25, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: 892 9014 8734 Passcode: 262121

Attendance (voting Members in bold)					
Dr. Anthony (Tony) Dietz, President	P	Carlos Contreras, Vice President	P	Dr. David Garcia, Secretary/ Treasurer	P
Dr. Javier Cárdenas, Past President/RDC Chair	P	John Snider, FIC Chair	P	Alexander (Alex) Laing	P
Betty Hum, GC Chair	P	Marcia Mintz	P	Kevin Allen	P
Allison Otu	P	Karen Lugosi	P	Dr. Ed Finn	P
Dr. Heidi Jannenga, TC Chair	P	John O'Neal [Pending]	P	Ricky Livoni, Honorary Academic Faculty	P
Aaron Thacker, Honorary Arts Faculty	P	Jesús López, 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	Elizabeth (Liz) Shaw, Finance Director	P	Leslie Religioso, Development & Marketing Director	P
Carolyn Smith, Executive Assistant	P	Marc Wancer, EFF	P	Dr. Hazem Hnaide	P

Agenda Items
Call to the Public
Mission Moment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Percussion Ensemble Video Performance of "Hillside Cumbia" by Steve Chavez
Board Recognition
Discussion Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resource Development Committee/Development Dashboard Call for Board Involvement in Thank You Calls (Fundraising) and Showcase Sponsorships Finance Committee Community Health Conditions and Back to School Timeline COVID-19 Vaccinations City of Phoenix 3rd Street Improvement Project – Certificate of Corporate Resolution
Reports
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Governance Committee Facilities Committee Strategic Plan Updates End of Year Production – Monica Anthony
Action Items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of December 14, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Approval of Certificate of Corporate Resolution for sale of land to the City of Phoenix for the 3rd Street Improvement Project
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

The Meeting was called to order by Board President, Dr. Tony Dietz at 5:32 p.m.

Call to the Public

Tony opened the meeting with a call to the public reviewing the rules of public participation in the Board meeting. As there were no comments or questions from the public, Tony closed the floor.

Mission Moment

The Board watched a video performance of Steve Chavez' "Hillside Cumbia" by ASA's Percussion Ensemble.

Board Recognition

Tony recognized ASA's Arts Director & Vice Principal of Student Services, Monica Anthony, for the creativity and enthusiasm she brings to her position, especially in the current online teaching structure. Aaron Thacker added that as an arts teacher, he always comes away from a conversation with Monica feeling inspired.

Discussion Items

- Dr. Javier Cárdenas shared the Development Dashboard, emphasizing that fundraising is trending behind this time last year. Acknowledging that money discussions are difficult, Javier reminded the Board that their first priority as members was the fiscal health of ASA in addition the insight and oversight they provide. He said that the fundraising efforts by Leslie Religioso and the team were better than expected, and they are appreciative of their hard work and efforts.
- Javier proposed a challenge to the Board for Showcase sponsorships; each member is to make a Sponsorship ask, and copy Leslie and relevant team members during that ask. The next meeting will have details of the levels of sponsorship. In an effort to make the challenge fun, Dr. David Garcia announced that an ask to an individual or organization for any level of sponsorship will allow members to be eligible for a prize, to be determined. Carlos Contreras recommended that there should be some tracking so that businesses do not get multiple separate asks; Javier responded that Leslie is keeping a spreadsheet of companies and contacts and suggested that members check in with Leslie before making an ask.
- At this time the meeting was joined by special guest, Dr. Rebecca Sunenshine, Medical Director for Disease Control at Maricopa County Health Department and ASA Health and Wellness Council Member. Since her time was limited, Leah Fregulia suggested that her presentation on COVID-19 Vaccinations be moved up the agenda, allowing the Board to revisit the skipped items after Dr. Sunenshine needed to leave. The suggestion was accepted by the Board President.

Dr. Sunenshine shared the current epidemiology curves showing the trend of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations in Maricopa County; she believes we have passed the peak of this second large wave of cases and, while still high, are trending downwards. Deaths are still not trending down, but there is a flattening of the curve which is encouraging.

She then gave an overview presentation on the current mRNA COVID-19 vaccines developed by Pfizer and Moderna including how they work, how they were developed, the review process and dispelled the misconceptions around these vaccines. Dr. Sunenshine went on to explain the two-step vaccination process and possible side effects for both brands and the state and county vaccine phases and Points of Dispensing (PODs), highlighting the 1b Phoenix Union POD in which ASA participated this past weekend. She then invited questions:

- Leah asked her on behalf of the ASA staff when the second shot would be made available. Dr. Sunenshine explained that there is not an exact date yet, but members of her team will plan to have a POD approximately twenty-eight days from the first shot since a Moderna vaccine was administered and there is vaccine designated for the second shot.
- Leah asked if there was flexibility in getting the vaccine a little early or later than the target time. Dr. Sunenshine said there is a grace period for both vaccines allowing someone to get the second shot up to four days early without harm, and as much as six months after the first without losing immunity.
- Dr. Drew Maxwell thanked Dr. Sunenshine for her prior faculty presentation as it has proved helpful to easing questions and fears of our staff and confirmed that it would be a helpful presentation to give to other schools prior to their PODs at Dr. Sunenshine's inquiry.

- Tony asked about the possibility of the ADHS guidance on school delivery models changing once teachers are vaccinated and considered fully immune. Dr. Sunenshine said that the targets and guidance continues to change, but as long as teachers are vaccinated, the risk is minimized if other safety measures are continued including requiring masks and maintaining a six-foot distance between students at all times (especially at lunchtime) and having a good campus case-tracking system in place. If the COVID rates continue a downward trend (possibly below 10%), a school should be able to open on a hybrid model, but always choose safety first.
- As a follow-up, Drew asked Dr. Sunenshine what the current county guidance is on calling a campus outbreak. She explained that the epidemiological definition of an outbreak is two or more cases within a fourteen-day period at a school, but it is not worrisome if quarantine rules are followed. An uncontrolled outbreak, where the spread continues and cannot be traced to a definite source, is when closing for a couple of weeks would be recommended.
- Leah asked about the efficacy of the vaccines against the new variant strains of COVID-19 that are appearing. Dr. Sunenshine explained what she knew about the UK variant and said that the companies are pretty confident their vaccines will protect against it. She said she did not know enough about the South African variant to speak to it confidently, but to watch the CDC website.
- Carlos asked Dr. Sunenshine if and how these variants are being tracked in the local community. She said that the ADHS state lab is receiving isolates and local academia, UA and ASU, are helpful in sharing their research. If there is a sudden, large outbreak, they may ask the state lab to look closely at the testing or share the sampling with Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) who is monitoring this closely as genomes are their primary focus and they would be the most likely source to find the variants first in our locality.
- Returning to the Report from the Resource Development Committee, Javier shared the four dates planned for the Annual Parent Meetings and a reminder to the Board that these meetings are better received when there is Board representation at the meeting. RDC members will participate, sharing their thoughts with parents on why supporting ASA is so important.
- John Snider explained that since there was no Finance Committee meeting in December, the reports for both November and December are included on the Board portal; as they are cumulative, the December reports should be the focus. The school continues to manage expenses well and student count remains in budgeted range which is the primary source of revenue. Despite the lower state contributions due to online instruction, we are doing well because of expense management. Additional Federal funds will be distributed to the state, but it is not yet clear how much the school will receive; hopefully it will fill the gap. Tony emphasized the importance of the upcoming Annual Parent Meeting and a push on the Tax Credit as well as 100% Annual Fund participation this year.
- Tony showed the COVID-19 case, positivity and hospitalization rates in the Substantial range on the ADHS school dashboard, recommending an online model. He then shared the weighted case rates for ASA zip codes as of January 9th which are also trending upwards. Javier added that while we are gearing towards teacher vaccinations, with a great mitigation plan implemented by Drew, the Health and Wellness Council are looking at what to do in the possibility of high community spread with vaccination - possibly testing students with an eye towards equity – but the Council will have some ideas in March.
- Tony shared that he will be asking the Board for authority to sign a Certificate of Corporate Resolution relating to the sale of two small pieces of land to the City of Phoenix for the 3rd Street Improvement Project that was approved at the August 24th Board meeting.

Reports

- Betty Hum said the Governance Committee is considering two new members; Committee members have met with them and they will be put forward to the Board in approximately a month.
- Drew is still working to negotiate a plan with the construction manager at the project next door and he will be presenting numbers to Drew the next day for construction of the shade structure on campus.
- David Garcia reported that he, Leah and her team are working on gathering data on teacher salary comparisons and should have information to share in the next few meetings.
- Monica provided the inspiration for and an overview of the changes in the end of year Showcase, with the objective being, "Create a sustainable production process while enhancing the experience for all stakeholders and increasing the fundraising opportunities". Monica is proposing a one-day festival format with a rotating schedule that incorporates arts, academics and clubs. She is also proposing cross-training faculty to allow for a larger production staff and a \$50,000 fundraising goal with a 5% increase each year thereafter. The Development team will use the theme on all branding to help drive fundraising and the theme this year is HOME. This year will feature live and prerecorded performances much like the Inaugural concert in Washington, DC. Alex Laing asked if there will be a through line between yearlong lessons and student performances and what,

if any, student input goes into the planning and production. Monica responded that the shutdown and how the students are currently learning had a great influence on the event planning and that she has always listened to student voices when planning Showcase because they understand what their peers like compared to parents.

Action Items

Approval of Minutes – December 14, 2020

Javier Cárdenas moved to approve the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes from December 14, 2020. The motion was seconded by Heidi Jannenga and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Contreras, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

Approval of Certificate of Corporate Resolution for Sale of Land to the City of Phoenix for the 3rd Street Improvement Project

Marcia Mintz moved that Dr. Anthony Dietz, as President of the corporation, is hereby authorized to execute for and on behalf of the corporation deeds, contracts of sale, notes, mortgages, deeds of trust, satisfactions of mortgages, leases and any other documents or instruments pertaining to or connected with real property to be acquired, sold, or currently held by this corporation. The motion was seconded by Karen Lugosi and passed unanimously without further discussion. [Dietz, Contreras, Garcia, Cárdenas, Snider, Laing, Hum, Mintz, Allen, 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, Mintz, Allen, Otu, Lugosi, Finn and Jannenga voting in favor.]

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Minutes reviewed and accepted on: 02/22/2021

Signed by:  _____, Board Member