

**LIFT FOR LIFE ACADEMY**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING**  
**August 25, 2016**

**Attendees:**

Scott Dolan, President	Marshall Cohen, Executive Director
Tami Fernandez, Vice President	Katrice Noble, Ed.D. Deputy Director
Brian Liberman, Treasurer	Jeff Edwards, MS Principal
Laura Kathleen Baker	David LeMay, HS Principal
Ernie Banks	Jennifer Bush, Development Manager
Jeff Bensky, PhD.	Amber Johansen, Institutional Advancement Manager
Sandy Boxerman	Dionne Wagner, College & Career Specialist
Jack Burke, Ph.D.	Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson, Dean College of Education, SEMO
Mary Jo Liberstein, Ph.D.	Dr. Laura Brock, new SEMO Liaison

At 4:00 Board President, Scott Dolan called the meeting to order.

Scott Dolan introduced Dr. Laura Brock, LFLA's SEMO Liaison. Dr. Brock was a former teacher and assistant superintendent with Ladue. She stressed that she is here to support LFLA

- I. **MISSION MOMENT** – Dionne Wagner was introduced by Marshall Cohen. Dionne explained that she is a LFLA class of 2012 graduate and recently completed her BA in Psychology and Family Studies from SEMO and was recently accepted at SLU for her graduate degree in Medical and Family Therapy. She is excited about joining the staff of LFLA as the College and Career Specialist.
- II. **GREAT BOARD REPORTING Tami Fernandez reported for Kate Hatfield**  
Attached to the Board packet is information, STAND FOR YOUR MISSION, offering Board members information about how to advocate for our mission and emphasizing the importance of speaking with one voice – Board, Staff and students. This is suggested as a topic for the Board Retreat.

**III. VOTING ITEMS**

**A. Approval of May Minutes**

- ✓ Jack Burke moved to approve June minutes with the correction – remove “When reporting to DESE the year end reserve goal will be met as capital funds are included in the DESE calculations.” Motion seconded Brian Liberman and passed unanimously.

Scott Dolan recommended that the remainder of voting items be approved by one consensus vote.

Sandy Boxerman moved to all the following voting items in the affirmative:

- B. Consent & Approval of Checks
- C. Consent & Approval of August Checks
- D. FY16 Amended Budget
- E. Tueth Keeney Cooper Mohan & Jackstadt, P.C. Law Firm for Foundation Creation
- F. 2016-17 Employee Handbook
- G. 2016-17 Student Handbook
- H. SPED Compliance Plan

Motion seconded by Jack Burke and passed unanimously.

#### **IV. Education Committee – Dr. Mary Jo Liberstein**

The Education Committee has been dormant during the summer. There is no firm data to present at this time. The data should be ready for the September Board meeting.

Dr. Noble reported that High School started August 16<sup>th</sup> and Middle School on August 17<sup>th</sup>. This year LFLA is instilling cultures of “accountability” and “engagement”. Weekly Deputy Director and Principals visit classrooms to know what is happening at all times. A debriefing is done after each walk-through and shared with the teacher.

Enrollment is currently 250 in Middle School and 313 in High School, with the likelihood of four additional students enrolling soon. Attendance for High School is 95%. Middle School attendance calculations are not yet complete. 74 students are enrolled in 6<sup>th</sup> grade. It is very difficult to fill this class.

#### **V. SEMO — Dr. Diana Rogers-Adkinson**

Dr. Rogers-Adkinson said she would be attending more Board meetings and Dr. Brock will be more involved by attending sub-committee meetings. Dr. Rogers-Adkinson conveyed SEMO’s President’s support of LFLA and said he is very committed to having a strong working relationship with LFLA.

Scott Dolan reported that he met with Dr. Carlos Vargas-Aburto, the new SEMO President. There will be clear expectation developed. A win-win, mutually beneficial collaboration is shared vision for President Vargas-Aburto and LFLA. Literacy is a top priority for SEMO and Dolan/LFLA. Dolan reported that it is LFLA’s intent to commit to SEMO for the balance of the contract, with no sponsorship change being made.

#### **VI. Development - Tami Fernandez**

Tami Fernandez reported that the Committee has established three goals:

1. Increasing Development Committee membership
2. Increasing Fashion Show revenue
3. Finding suitable members for the new Foundation Board.

Amber Johansen announced that Duke Manufacturing has committed to updating the ALFLA kitchen. The Academy will have a state-of-the- art kitchen, similar to those found in private schools. This has a value of \$80-100,000.

##### **A. Capital Campaign. Amber Johansen reported:**

- A very busy fall is expected as more tours are being scheduled.
- Plans are being revised to make the gym more affordable.

#### **VII. Operations Committee – Sandy Boxerman**

Sandy Boxerman reported the committee has finished updating the Employee Handbook.

**VIII. Finance Committee – Brian Liberman**

**A. June and July YTD Financials**

Brian Liberman reported that for July, the Dashboard is starting in yellow due to the impact of the DESE revised calculations. LFLA is on target to meet goals for 2016-17. Grace pointed out that LFLA will need to increase revenue by approximately \$200,000 to overcome the impact of the reduced DESE revenue

**IX. Other - Scott Dolan**

- Scott Dolan reiterated the positive feeling he has about LFLA’s collaborative partnership with SEMO.
- Marshall Cohen gave a brief update on capital campaign meetings. LFLA is worked with an architect to revise plans to eliminate the need to build up, which includes elevators. We gain 2 more classrooms and will have 2 separate entrances. Vatterott College has committed to providing some free labor, a part of their externship program. Meetings are continuing with a major donor and we should have an answer in mid-late September

**X. Closed Session. NONE**

**XI. Adjournment.**

Tami Fernandez moved to adjourn. Motion seconded by Ernie Banks and passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5: 05 pm.

**Respectfully Submitted,**

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Scott Dolan, President

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Jennifer Bush for Secretary Gina Wischmeyer