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Rio Gallinas School of Ecology and the Arts
Governing Council Meeting Minutes for
Tuesday, February 16, 2016
West Las Vegas Board Room
179 Bridge Street, 5:30pm

PROCEDURAL:

Meeting called to order at 5:34pm by Crystal Gallegos, Chair. Quorum declared present. Pledge of Allegiance recited.

Members present: J. Emilio Aragon, Rudy Castellano, Crystal Gallegos, Michael Immerman, Georgina Ortega. Staff: Gerald Garcia, director.

Interim Secretary: Carol Winkel.

Agenda : The agenda was approved on a motion by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Ms. Ortega.

Minutes: The minutes for January 16, 2016 were approved as moved by Mr. Aragon and seconded by Mr. Immerman.

Next regular meeting: set for March 15 ,2016, to be held at the West Las Vegas Board Room.

Public Comments: There were none.

Action Items:

Financial Report: The financial report was reviewed. Action was taken approving the Bars 151600024-M, 1516-0025-M, 1516-0026-T, and 1516-0027-T on a motion by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Immerman. The Payroll & Accounts Payable Payment Vouchers for January 2016 were approved, as moved by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Mr. Castellano. None apposed. Discussion on the timeline for upkeep on the Rio Gallinas bus ensued with satisfactory explanations by the director. A question concerning the latest information on utility billing by Luna Community College established that the second building accessing electricity at a cost to Rio has been vacated. The Cyber-Bullying Policy was approved as amended on a motion by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Ms. Ortega. None apposed.

Employee Handbook: On a motion by Mr. Immerman and seconded by Ms. Ortega, the approval of the handbook was tabled and will be voted on at the March meeting.

Bylaws: It was moved by Mr. Aragon and seconded by Mr. Castellano that the bylaws be amended to establish the composition of the Governing Council with the following membership: the total number of voting members should be at least five but not to exceed seven, at least one of whom is a parent or guardian; a teacher and a student should be ex officio members; and the liaison from the West Las Vegas Board should be included. None apposed.

Reports:

Food Services update: The RFA is not out yet.

Elementary and Middle School update: Three students have joined the elementary school.

Luna Update: Already partially covered. The new lease agreement is still being discussed.

Minutes for February 16, 2016 (cont.)

Charter Renewal: A meeting was held the morning of February 16, and various timelines and information were presented. Participants stated that the procedure is very positive and effective. All constituents are involved. The final deadline of October 1 is the focus.

Director's Report: See attached. A possible training for GC members will be in Albuquerque March 2. Testing is coming up. The 100% participation rate last year was very important in the school's improved rating. The K-3 application process is starting soon; 15-20 students in regular attendance are needed. Rio Gallinas will be separate from the WLV program.

The employee vote on participation in Social Security was in favor of participation, and the results have been certified.

Committee Reports:

Director's Evaluation Committee continues to work on criteria and the method of determining competence. A rough draft of the committee's recommendations will be sent to GC members before the March meeting, for a decision then.

Community Committee: Ms. Ortega reported on activities and possible involvement. Casa de Cultura donated a sum to the Grow Dome and the art program

Procedures Committee: Change in bylaws to specify Governing Council membership discussed earlier.

Future Business:

Discussion and voting on the Student Handbook at the March meeting.

Grant Writing- Discussion on possible grant opportunities.

Announcements/Information:

Luna Community College Board meeting will be held March 8 at 5:30 in the LCC Student Services Board Room. Rio Gallinas will request to be put on the agenda.

Executive Session: The chair called the Governing Council into executive session at 7:34, as moved by Mr. Castellano and seconded by Mr. Aragon, with Mr. Aragon, Mr. Castellano, Mrs. Gallegos, Mr. Immerman, and Ms. Ortega present. The director Mr. Garcia was also present. Pursuant to NMSA 1978 Section 10-15-1 H (2), tort claim and limited personnel issues were discussed. The chair announced the return to open session at 7:39 p.m. and that no action had been taken.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes submitted by the interim secretary, Carol Winkel.