

The Emereau Foundation
d/b/a Emereau: Bladen
Meeting of the Board of Directors
Tuesday, February 21, 2023
995 Airport Road, Elizabethtown, North Carolina 28337

Minutes

The Emereau Bladen Board of Directors met in regular session on Tuesday, February 21, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. Members present: Sandra Lewis, Vice Chair; Phil Byrd, Treasurer, Maurice Williams, Dennis Troy, Dan Allen, Jennifer Whittington, and Whitley Ward, Board Attorney.

Participating virtually was Christy Nickolauson with Prestige School Solutions and Phyllis Pearson with Petway Mills & Pearson, PA

Member absent was Ashley Dowless, Board Chair.

Administrative staff present were Elizabeth Cole, Executive Director, Polly Hancock, Dean of Academics and Terri Raynor, Administrative Associate. Other staff present was Cassie Hancock.

Board Vice Chair, Sandra Lewis called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Everyone joined in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mrs. Lewis.

Mrs. Whittington read the Mission Statement.

Mrs. Lewis read the Conflict of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts of interest noted.

Mrs. Lewis presented the minutes from the January 10, 2023 meeting for approval. Mr. Allen motioned to approve the minutes presented. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mrs. Lewis opened the floor for public comments. No comments were given.

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson presented the financial report for the month of January. She reported that there is 50% remaining and that there were no findings to report. Mr. Byrd motioned to approve the financial report for January. Mr. Allen seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole reported that the audit was complete. Ms. Pearson went through the audit with the board. She commented that Emereau had strong financials and gave suggestions on how to better utilize money in the future. Mr. Byrd asked about overages and Ms. Pearson stated that amending a budget throughout the year was the best practice. She stated that we were in good shape and if approved we may go ahead and upload to DPI. Mr. Troy motioned to approve the audit as presented. Mr. Byrd seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole asked for approval on the Grant Writing contract with Rebecca Arroyo. Mrs. Cole stated that she was a great asset to Emereau and would like to have her back. Mr. Allen made

the motion to renew the Grant Writing contract. Mr. Troy seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole presented the Calendar drafts to the board. She went over the major differences between the two drafts and gave the results of our staff survey. The staff survey was close to a split between the two with Draft #2 being the greater choice. Mr. Allen made the motion to approve Calendar Draft #2 for the 2023-2024 school year. Mr. Troy seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cole presented the PTO Donations Policy and Procedures draft to the board. She explained how the donations and requests would work. Mr. Troy asked if it was approved by the attorney in which she said yes. Mr. Byrd asked for a change in B1, it was noted to that change would be made. Mrs. Whittington made the motion to approve the PTO Donations Policy and Procedures with the noted change. Mr. Williams seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

In the Executive Director's report Mrs. Cole informed the board of a Risk Pool Grant we have received. It would give us the ability to bring someone in to help with our EC class. Once implemented she would give an update. She then gave a report on our Up, Up and Away Open House. The efforts of Michelle Everette and the Emereau team boosted our lottery numbers from 69 on 1/10 to 143 on 2/21. We are currently taking in student intent forms and will give an update at next meeting. Mrs. Cole also informed the board that the Emereau website has been updated and has received many compliments. She also shared with them that BETA was a success and that we have several students eligible to go to Nationals and are currently working on getting that trip organized. Mrs. Cole let the board know that she is seeking advice from Dave Faunce on a new auditor going forward and that there has been a change within the Finance office and that Christy Nickolauson would be taking care of our finances for now.

Mr. Byrd motioned to go into closed session at 6:33 p.m. Mr. Troy seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Mr. Byrd motioned to come out of closed session at 6:45 p.m. Mrs. Whittington seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Under Personnel Recommendations, Mr. Allen motioned to uphold the recommendation of the administration. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

The March meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Mr. Allen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Mr. Byrd seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Raynor
Administrative Associate