

2/26/2007
10:03 AM

Board of Directors of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op
Meeting Minutes: January 31, 2007
Approved by the Board: February 7, 2007

Board Members Present: Heather O'Mara, Carol O'Dowd, Bill Eaton
Other Attendees: John Snow and Hugh Thatcher (Hackstaff Gessler LLC), attorneys
for Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:12 p.m. by John Snow.
2. **Posting of Meeting Notice:**
 - a. Mr. Snow advises that he confirmed that the meeting notice was posted in accordance with the Colorado Open Meetings Act.
3. **Quorum:**
 - a. Quorum is present; over half members of are Board present.
4. **Meeting Purpose:** Special meeting of the Board of Directors to focus on certain items relating to the organizations operations. Provide an opportunity for Board to act (through approval) or voice concerns (through disapproval).
5. **Review of Trujillo Commission Report:**
 - a. Heather O'Mara gives an overview of the Trujillo report.
 - i. Trujillo Commission issued their draft report on 1/26/07.
 - ii. Hope and other online schools agree with many of the recommendations in the report.
 - iii. The one challenge is in recommendation number 5. This is specifically applicable to Hope.
 - iv. The focus is on the need for additional accountability and oversight of learning centers to make sure everyone is complying with the appropriate laws.
 - v. Mrs. O'Mara discussed recommendation number 5 and the competing proposals within it.
 1. The first proposal states that the Online Division will oversee multi-district online programs and implement quality criteria.
 - a. Mrs. O'Mara favors this approach and thinks Hope may benefit from it
 2. The second proposal, beginning with the language "Or, in the alternative," sets out the following:
 - a. Online operator needs to get a charter for all the learning centers by each district in which they operate.
 - b. If the charter is denied, the online program operator can go through the normal charter

2/26/2007
10:03 AM

- school appeals process with the State Board of Education.
 - c. Existing learning centers have two years to complete that process.
 - d. Talks about co-sharing of data with district of residence of students.
 - e. Any adults at a learning center need to be a certified teacher and maintain same teacher-student ration that traditional schools in that district have.
 - 3. Mrs. O'Mara believes the second proposal could be very detrimental to Hope.
- vi. Next public meeting of the Trujillo Commission is 02/02/07.
 - 1. Mrs. O'Mara will testify about the challenges for Hope's Learning Centers to receive charters.
 - 2. Mrs. O'Mara will testify about the opportunities from an "online division" to oversee learning centers.
 - 3. Two parents of Hope students will also to testify on how Hope has helped their kids be successful.
 - 4. Community leaders that are running learning centers will talk about how Hope has been really helping their communities from an educational perspective.
 - 5. Jim Griffin will testify that learning centers are not schools and that learning centers couldn't even complete a charter school application because there are so many components that a charter school is required to have and included in their application that a learning center doesn't provide. He will emphasize the differences between charter schools and learning centers.
 - 6. Hope will provide the Commission with written information as well.
 - 7. We are hoping to influence the final draft of the report or at least get a strong alternative written so if a bill is drafted and proposed that has the "in the alternative" language in there. Some of our supporters can provide some amendment language that we could live with that would provide the additional accountability that people are looking for.
 - 8. We will do the appropriate protests and provide additional information as requested on Friday.
 - 9. The final report is expected to be issued on February 15, 2007. Given that February 15th date, the legislature will probably introduce a bill on or about February 19th.

6. **Approval of Minutes from the 12/15/06 and 01/10/07 Meetings.**

2/26/2007
10:03 AM

- a. Motion for resolution is made to postpone until 2/7/07 the vote on the minutes from the 12/15/06 and 01/10/07 meetings. Motion by Bill Eaton, seconded by Carol O'Dowd.
 - i. Roll Call Vote
 1. Carol O'Dowd: YES
 2. Bill Eaton: YES
 - ii. Resolution is passed.

7. **Exhibit 4: Consideration of the Operating Line of Credit Agreement.**
 - a. Motion for resolution is made to postpone the consideration of the operating line of credit agreement until 02/07/07 meeting is made by Bill Eaton and is seconded by Carol O'Dowd.
 - i. Roll Call Vote:
 1. Bill Eaton: YES
 2. Carol O'Dowd: YES
 - ii. Resolution is passed.

8. **Executive Session:**
 - a. None.

9. **Announcements:**
 - a. None

10. **Next Meeting:**
 - a. February 7, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

11. **Adjourn:**
 - a. Motion for resolution to adjourn the meeting made by Carol O'Dowd and seconded by Bill Eaton.
 1. Roll Call Vote:
 - a. Carol O'Dowd: YES
 - b. Bill Eaton: YES
 - b. Resolution passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.