

Minutes of Special Meeting of the Governing Board
Of Na Wai Ola PCS
Sept 9, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 5:35PM, quorum was established, with caveat that it was the minimum number for quorum, so all members would have to be unanimous in any vote for the vote to count.

Agenda was accepted.

Board chair had established a list of issues which he wished to address before the board got to the business of the K-1 class size, which was 4th on the agenda. The first item was to establish rules for emails, which the chair said must be short enough to be read in 3 minutes, unless you were the CEO or had something really important to say. After approximately 15 to 20 minutes about this – which had been spurred by a long email sent out the previous Tuesday by board member Quijano - he went on to talk about discussing board financial data with non board members, saying this was a violation of our by laws, a severe breach of board protocol, a breach of confidentiality etc. The former two issues were directly related to the fact of board member M Quijano having sent out an email to board members after the last meeting discussing in detail line by line the outstanding discrepancies between the annual budget the board had approved in July and the updated version supplied by the business manager for the Sept 2 special board meeting. Quijano was severely rebuked for sending out this email, especially as it had inadvertently been sent to 3 of the teaching staff members as well. Quijano contended that it was not a violation of board policy or practice to make our financial data known – other than that of private nature such as staff salaries – because all that data is supposed to be on public record. This counter was not well received by the board chair.

The next item on his agenda had to do with conflicts and conflict resolution, saying that he was getting calls and emails from the staff regarding issues that should have been handled by the school leadership. When asked for specifics, he said that the concerns of the Kindergarten teacher had been directed to him when it should have been handled by the director and in his stead (he was in HNL at the time getting married) by Ms Quijano. It was explained to the chair that the situation was brought to the staff rep and SSA, Kumu Lore Makaiwi, as well as to Ms Quijano on the same day that the kindergarten teacher let the chair know her concerns, and that they immediately met with her and took action to handle the situation in the director's absence, including giving her Kumu Quijano's own classroom aide. He had no other incident to report.

Next the issue of Budget concerns and financial oversight was brought up: When again the issue of difficulties getting an updated and accurate financial statement to the board was brought up (as yet again we had no new financial data with which to

make a decision at this board meeting) the new board treasurer asked who was on the budget committee. Finding out it was Kumu Quijano and Kumu Lore, she then asked why we hadn't gone to the business manager ourselves on prior occasions to get the updated financial report. The board chair then began asking Ms Quijano directly and repeatedly if she had gone and done this and when she responded that she had not he demanded several times to know why she hadn't. At this point kumu Lore stepped in and clarified first of all that it was not the budget committee members Kuleana to do this, as we were only responsible for helping to formulate and present the annual budget to the board for approval. However, she said, she had gone personally to the business manager on many occasions to get the financials for the board meeting, and each time had been given some reason or another why the budget was not done and/or not available for the board to see. After this the board chair apologized to Kumu Quijano for his treatment of her.

The treasurer then brought up the issue of why board minutes had not been posted since last May. She directed the question to kumu Quijano, the board secretary. Kumu Quijano said that she had given the minutes to the board chair each time, and the board chair confirmed it was his fault the minutes had not been posted.

Finally the board was able to move onto the actual business of the special session, which didn't occur until approximately 6:50PM. The board chair reported that PreK could not be housed in the modular building after all, as had been suggested earlier in the week (The suggestion was made to put PreK, K and 1 all into the modular), as the center wall was a load bearing wall and could not be moved: also the space would be inadequate. He said that the PreK grant person said the current PreK classroom is fine. However then it was brought up by the director that we needed to have enough space to house 20 students – which is 700 sf – and that the current space cannot hold that many, so we might need to use the back room as well (where grade 1 is currently housed) for the additional space requirements.

Kumu Quijano asked where in the grant it says that we MUST house 20 students, as she only recalled seeing the stipulation that we could not have *more than 20* students. The treasurer stated that it was on pg 14, item 2.1 of the grant.

The board went on to the issue of housing K and 1 in the modular building, and then on to the question about setting up a combined K-1 class to alleviate the crowding in K and 1 and to avoid a grievance. The Treasurer brought up an item in the statement that had come from the uniserve director that seemed to indicate we were not strictly limited to a 20:1 ratio in K-2 after all, but might be able to use EAs to reduce the ratio. Several options were discussed, including the board chair's suggestion that we take 5 or 6 students from each class and then have an EA teach the K-1 hybrid using lessons provided by the teachers. Because of the confusion as to the union contract stipulations on class size, as well as a lack of budget to refer to, these issues could still not be resolved.

A motion was made to create a K-1 class, but there were 4 votes for and 2 against. Since it needed to be consensus, the vote failed. Then a motion was made to house K and 1 in the modular, and this too failed, with 2 members voting for it and 4 against. Finally the Treasurer once again brought up the issue of who was on the budget committee, and stated that she did not want Quijano on the budget committee with her because after the e-mail discussion on finance matters, she didn't feel Quijano should be entrusted with that role. Quijano promptly resigned from the budget committee.

At 8:15 the meeting ended.