

Governance Committee Meeting

Date: 14 January 2021

Time: 7.30 pm

Present:

Chair: Tara Peterson

Secretary: Liz Alderson

Attendees:

Chair: Tara Peterson (member) Secretary: Liz Alderson Scott Woolford (member)

Lindsay Stephens (member) Connie Shepherd (member) Joseph Hagopian

Melek De-Wint (member) Atousa Faraz Darren Lafreniere

Derek Rayside (member) Johnny Tkach (member) Tracy Jewitt (member)

Walid Al-Hajj (member) Natasha Boodoo (member) Diana Barbato (member)

Ashwin Mallipatna Tempie Jeff Kearns

Karen (Johnny's partner) Mo Jalali

Regrets: Lynda Jeffs (member)

Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Purpose of governance committee - Establish ByLaws: Must Haves and Should Haves
3. Code of Ethics for school council members - Discussion of TDSB recommended Code of Ethics that was provided to members prior to the meeting

Discussion of Governance Committee mandate: to get our Bylaws in place.

MUST HAVE BYLAWS - Election Procedures/Filling Vacancies/Conflict of Interest/Conflict Resolution

Should have Bylaws - long list and Code of Ethics, however Tara suggests moving Code of Ethics to Must Haves

4 MUST HAVE Bylaws into working groups:

Conflict Resolution - Lindsay/Connie/Melek Conflict of Interest - Derek/Johnny

Filling Vacancies - Walid/Tracy Lynda/Diana/Natasha - Elections

Timelines discussed - drafts to Tara by Jan 28 - next meeting hopeful Feb 4 after Tara reviews. Everyone in agreement.

Derek proposes procedural bylaws, "processes" - Tara agrees, ideally Tara wants an operations manual to assist in roles - however we need the MUST HAVES prior to proceeding. Derek wants Michelle Munroe's presentation to our council, he has asked her several times.

Discussion surrounding collaborative software for working. Google docs was suggested and agreed on by Scott. There was some concern that changes could be overridden, however this was refuted and everyone agreed to use google docs.

Melek talks about the Lighthouse Foundation. Should our Council's ByLaws also govern the Lighthouse Foundation? A robust conversation was had.

Connie, a former IPSC Executive recalls the Lighthouse Foundation donating money to fund the Mosaic wall at Ward's Island...as Island Foundation is to give back to the school and the community.

Tara suggested that it may be a private foundation and therefore not connected to IPS.

Connie disagreed, commenting that it is absolutely connected, Chair & Treasurer of council are on the Board of Island Foundation.

Agreed upon that Tara should find out more information about the Lighthouse Foundation and its structure.

CODE OF ETHICS DISCUSSION

Everyone confirms reading and understand the TDSB Sample Code of Ethics (from Michelle Munroe's website) that was provided prior to the meeting.

Melek wants clarification on #2 - *A member shall remember that they are representing the school population and not individual wants and desires.*

(She held a clothing drive and wants to do it again, does #2 prohibit her from making individual contributions to IPS community separate from the School Council. Tara comments that Council would love to work with her. Great idea providing we get all approvals to proceed...could turn it into a fundraiser as well. If beyond Council initiatives, is she allowed? Scott says if it's a grey area we would check with Michelle Munroe).

Johnny is OK with everything, as it is mostly "do unto others" language...he is not OK with 17 - Social Media Clause, he wants to remove it entirely.

Derek not comfortable with "refrain from" in Social Media clause 17 suggesting a type of gag order and possible misinterpretation. He would like to rework entire document.

17. Social Media – **Name* School Council Members shall refrain from the following: a. Using any form of social media to speak negatively about any member of the school council, the school council as a whole, school council initiatives, *Name* School, b. Using any form of social media to represent the Bowmore School Council in any manner other than those sanctioned by the School Council or the Principal. c. Using the *Name* School Council or its brand to promote their personal initiatives*

Derek wants clarification on Code of Ethics- seeking approval tonight? Tara clarifies that a working Code of Ethics is needed for the next council meeting, we need something approved.

Melek suggests TDSB Sample Code of Ethics from the guide as Social Media clause absent. Scott points out that guide is 2001, update with Social Media Clause is 2008. Social Media not a concern in 2001.

Final agreement to move forward with TDSB Sample Code of Ethics with an expiry date of 02/28/2021. Expiry date as Tara seeking intent behind #2 and #17 from Michelle Munroe while Diana/Johnny/Derek work on alternate language for Section 17.

Lindsay introduces Jeff Kearns who had been listening and he wants to join, although not a voting member of Council. Tara confirms his membership as part of the Governance Committee.

Tara requests everyone to consent to share their email addresses with each other at SC.IslandPublicNaturalScienceSchool@tdsb.on.ca

ACTION ITEMS:

1	Michelle Munroe's presentation	Tara
2	Request for governance clarity surrounding the Lighthouse Foundation – Need governance documents from CRA website.	Tara
3	Can all members share their email addresses. Please contact SC.IslandPublicNaturalScienceSchool.tdsb.on.ca	All
4	Subcommittees to draft preliminary bylaws by 28 th Jan if possible	All
5	Derek & Johnny & Diana discussion code of ethics – come up with alternative wording for #17 that can be provided to Michelle Munroe for compare and contrast with existing #17 wording.	Derek, Johnny, Diana
6	Tara to contact Michelle Munroe for Interpretation of #2 with respect to Meleks concerns, and #17 once Diana/Derek/Johnny has come up with alternate wording	Tara