

State Charter School Commission

111 Sewall Street (physical address)
23 State House Station (mailing address)
Augusta, ME 04333-0023

The State Charter School Commission held meeting on April 17, 2012, at the Cross State Office Building, 111 Sewall Street, Augusta, Maine. The following members were present: James Banks, Sr.; Richard (Dick) Barnes; Jana Lapoint; Donald Mordecai; Shelley Reed; and William Shuttleworth.

Excused: Lynda Doyle

Also present were: Jennifer Pooler, Administrative Assistant, Department of Education and Deborah Friedman, Department of Education.

CALLED TO ORDER:

Chair, James A. Banks, Sr., called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED by Shelley Reed, seconded by Donald Mordecai, and unanimously voted by those present to approve the April 3, 2012 minutes as written.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Chair, James Banks, Sr.:

- Had the hearing on Commission Chapter 2 rules on April 10; written public comments are still being accepted through April 20; the Commission will respond to all oral and written public comments on April 25 and the rule will then be filed with the Secretary of State.

Vice-chair, William Shuttleworth:

- None

MEMBER'S REPORTS:

Shelley Reed

- Public input sessions were held in Presque Isle and Machias; only a few in attendance at each
- Those in attendance appreciated the willingness of the Commission members to travel to those locations
 - Wanted to remind the Commission to be observant of the "other" Maine when granting charters

Jana Lapoint

- Visited a charter school when she was in Florida

- Principal recommended board members with a “fire in the belly” for start-up schools

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. MOVED by William Shuttleworth, seconded by Jana Lapoint to approve the next RFP cycle, as amended, of August 31, 2012 through February 1, 2013, and unanimously voted by those present.
- B. MOVED by Jana Lapoint, seconded by William Shuttleworth to approve the RFP and Application for School Year 2012-2013, as amended, and unanimously voted by those present.
- C. Discussion began on the draft framework for the Review Team process
 - Five positive votes required to grant charter and negotiate a contract
 - Membership of review teams
 - Consultants
 - Review the draft framework in conjunction with Chapter 2

Don Mordecai was excused at 11:00 AM.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Submit Expense Account Vouchers to Jennifer Pooler at the end of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Q: Are you limiting the number of charter schools you are authorizing?

A: No

Q: If someone takes the full 60 days to respond to the RFP, is there still enough time for the charter school to open on September 1, 2012?

A: Most likely not

ADJOURNMENT:

MOVED by Richard Barnes, seconded by Shelley Reed, and unanimously voted by those present to adjourn the April 17, 2012 State Charter School Commission meeting at 11:34 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Pooler