



Notes from the
Charter School Meeting
Wednesday, July 27, 2011
3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
Room 538
Cross State Office Building

A Charter School meeting was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2011, at the Department of Education in Augusta. The following were present: James Banks, Sr., Chair of the State Board; Judith Jones, Chairperson of the Maine Association for Charter Schools; Roger Brainerd, Director of the Maine Association for Charter Schools; and Mary Becker, SBE Secretary Associate.

- Roger applied for a grant on July 7, 2011. Sent a Letter of Intent and if accepted will need a proposal. Applied as a member
- The cost to become a National member is \$500.00
- Jim will appoint 3 Board members to the Charter School Sub-Committee at the August State Board Retreat
 - Look at how we formulate the Commission
 - What we need to be ready to do on September 29, 2011
 - Can not seek other 4 members until after September 28th
 - Board will confirm 3 members at October 10, 2011 Board meeting
 - September 12, 2011 Board meeting is in Ashland
- Will the Commission be applying for grants?
- How has other States started the process?
- Jim met with Deb Friedman, DOE on July 22nd
- Interested individuals should send to Mary Becker a letter of interest, resume, brief bio (see page 8 of law for experience)
- The 3 SBE members will review the letters of intent, resumes, etc., following the October Board meeting
- Positions to hire – Executive Director and Administrative Assistant

- Sarah Forster – Ask her what legal authority will the Commission have
- State Employees or contracted employees
- Law states “meet criteria”
- Location for Commission and staff – Little or no money. Will ask the Commissioner if they can be housed at DOE to get started
 - Room 500, 103, or 105 as they will be public meetings
 - A cubicle at DOE for 2 staff members
- Commission will be separate from the SBE
- AOIS Software – Call is in to David Hanson who manages data collection
- Idaho is an independent commission and not a good model – they all have their own system
- Gates Foundation – Judith and Roger can apply to
- Who is in charge of funds and payment of bills
- As a small non-profit – there are things they can do
- Roger – there are superintendents he has spoken with that have an interest in establishing a Charter School
- There are close to a dozen schools throughout the State that may want to be involved with training
- Financials are all formatted the same
- Annual reporting system needs to be in place
- Need a chart to state who is responsible for what
- Jim – it is too early for training in August
- Jim – To the SBE members
 - This is how they formed
 - Contract or hire employees?
 - Initial funding – where to get it?
 - What have existing Commissions already faced?
 - Policies and procedures after October meeting, or November, after there are 7 members
- Judith – Roberta Teddy, New Hampshire Charter Schools, has a family home in Phippsburg, Maine. Should talk to Roberta soon.
 - When would it be useful to have Roberta come in?
 - Need expertise in putting this all together
 - Is it best to meet with the group of 3 or wait until they can meet with all 7?

- Could have the AOIS come to present their software
- Should work on any Charter formed needs to use the accounting system
- Massachusetts has 8 staff people (3 key people listed)
- DOE has created a Charter School website
- Roger – Have booked the Civic Center so all people who are interested can be brought together to start a networking. DOE – Washington – National Alliance
- Do not want to rush into any decision making after all the work that has been put into this.
- Multiple Measures - data