



Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

January Monthly Meeting

Date and Time

Wednesday January 4, 2023 at 8:00 PM

Location

Zoom: <https://dartmouth.zoom.us/j/94206079810?pwd=OU4xS1BLQUI0cUlkUkk5dGJkQWpZUT09&from=addon>

Committee Members Present

EJ Lafleur (remote), LATRINA DENSON (remote), Shino Pichette (remote)

Committee Members Absent

None

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Shino Pichette called a meeting of the Governance Committee of Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School to order on Wednesday Jan 4, 2023 at 8:13 PM.

C. Read Mission Statement

Read by EJ.

D. Approve Nov 1 Gov Mtg Minutes

Shino Pichette made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly Governance Committee Meeting on 11-01-22.

EJ Lafleur seconded the motion.

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

LATRINA DENSON Aye

Shino Pichette Aye

EJ Lafleur Aye

II. Governance

A. New Member Vote & Discussion

Shino Pichette made a motion to Nominate Azizah for board membership at the next full board meeting.

LATRINA DENSON seconded the motion.

We support her!

The committee **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

LATRINA DENSON Aye

Shino Pichette Aye

EJ Lafleur Aye

B. New Member On-Boarding

Going to do an orientation for the new members.

We still need one more member to meet our bylaws minimum.

Everyone will keep an eye out and try to continue spreading the word. Latrina has an idea of someone.

C. ByLaws Updates Discussion

Open a discussion with the board about:

1. The gov committee recommends that the teachers stay fully involved but become non-voting members. Due to the union, it doesn't seem appropriate anymore. Too many conflicts of interest. We propose moving them from voting to non-voting members.

- We want input from the board though.

Board composition:

It has been confusing in the past because DESE counts members not just voting members. We would like to change it so that our bylaws outline both voting and non-voting members and to clarify that our minimum membership is counted by voting members. When considering board composition...

1. Do we want to update the board composition to reflect our current involvement of Head of School and CFO?

2. If we add the Admin Head of School and CFO roles, do we want to update the teacher/staff roles to be just teacher roles?

3. Should we indicate a high school and middle school teacher each for those two positions?

Reviewed the Board Composition Outlines Document.

Other conversations discussed in terms of ByLaw Updates.

- Section 3.5: We like the addition of "traditionally" to the timing of the annual meeting. And we like adding a note that there is traditionally a retreat as well.

- Section 4.1: Should we decrease the minimum time a member must have served before being allowed to serve in an officer position?

Shino proposes a 6 month minimum, to give us flexibility when someone joins part way through the year but is a qualified candidate for an officer. Also, sometimes members join months before DESE approves them formally, but the time limit is set on the DESE approval date.

Maybe we keep it at a year but make a note that in unique circumstances it could be less time. We want to be sure officers are qualified.

Maybe we check in with DESE to see what is appropriate.

- Section 4.3: The wording was changed to remove the 3 year officer option since we took away the 3 year option for term lengths. Question of whether all officers should serve for 2 years or have the option of 1 year. Since some officers only want to serve 1 year, that is a good reason to leave that in, it allows flexibility.

- Section 6.2: Committee members... do they serve as the discretion of the committee chair or the board chair? Need to clarify.

- Article 9: Too much complicated wording about the scheduling of the annual meeting! We want to simplify it.

Next Steps:

The Governance Committee is happy for Shino to incorporate the notes from the full board and create a cohesive updated draft. The Gov Committee is fine with Shino

running that version past the PVPA Lawyer and DESE before bringing it back to either the committee or the board.

III. Other Business

A. Confirm Monthly Meeting Time

Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 7 from 8-9pm.

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Shino Pichette