

# City Garden Montessori School

## Minutes

### Governance Committee Meeting

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**Date and Time**

Friday January 24, 2025 at 9:00 AM

**Location**

EAEC Conference Room #1

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**Committee Members Present**

J. Dixon, L. Schwartze, S. Haigler

**Committee Members Absent**

D. Smith, L. Vowell

**Guests Present**

C. Huck, C. Schell, M. Howard (remote), S. Miner

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**I. Opening Items****A. Welcome & Check-Ins****B. Record Attendance****C. Call the Meeting to Order**

J. Dixon called a meeting of the Governance Committee of City Garden Montessori School to order on Friday Jan 24, 2025 at 9:20 AM.

**II. Action Items****A. Approve November Minutes**

S. Haigler made a motion to approve the minutes from Governance Committee Meeting on 11-22-24.

L. Schwartze seconded the motion.

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

## **B. Committee priority updates**

- CEO evaluation still on track, timeline adjusted slightly.
- Policy updates still on track, significantly less lift for this committee this year
- Other notes - paying attention to changes from administration and any implications for policies, community engagement, communications.

## **C. Strategic planning**

- Mia shared highlights of board retreat conversation
- Considerations:
  - Integrate buffer due to geopolitical climate, ensure responsiveness throughout process
  - Milestones for synthesis/launch/pilots at end of each phase - avoiding "planning fatigue"
  - Ensure clear connectivity between strategic planning and community engagement

## **D. Community engagement**

- Claire and Christie shared overview of spring pilot, as well as current state of survey
- Survey feedback -
  - Clear communication around ~timeframe to complete
  - Copy/paste content into Word/Qualtrix to identify reading level and ensure accessibility
- Ensure touchpoint after each CESC meeting to align on strategic planning and board comms

## **E. Board recruitment**

- Claire provided updates on behalf of Kitty about relationship mapping process
  - Board reviewed almost 600 prospects, identified 150 known relationships, prioritized a subset for invitation to apply for Board and/or donor engagement
- Ask to committee members to engage in application review and/or candidate interviews

## **F. Board leadership succession**

- Jesse discussed working on a longer-term process that is more inclusive and transparent and the short-term need of identifying new officers

- Committee agreed on the importance of ensuring a leadership pipeline and giving board members opportunities to clearly demonstrate interest and grow into leadership roles
- Next steps -
  - Board chair 1:1s to identify interest
  - Revisit board role descriptions to ensure clarity and accuracy
  - Integrate interest statement into board self-evaluation

### **III. Updates**

#### **A. Updates from committee members**

- Opportunities to engage at City Garden - Mingling Mondays, Colorbrave
- Recognition of the committee's great work and deep conversation
- CG receiving two awards - Diverse Charter Schools Coalition, SLU Prime

### **IV. Closing Items**

#### **A. February Committee Meeting Reminder**

#### **B. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
J. Dixon