

City Garden Montessori School

Minutes

Governance Committee Meeting

Date and Time

Friday May 23, 2025 at 9:00 AM

Location

EAEC Conference Room

Committee Members Present

D. Smith (remote), J. Dixon (remote), L. Vowell (remote), S. Haigler (remote)

Committee Members Absent

L. Schwartze

Guests Present

C. Huck (remote), C. Schell (remote), K. Lohrum (remote), S. Miner (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Welcome & Check-Ins

Importance of moments of awe & wonder in this moment...learning to read, dogs, popcorn, natural medicine, sunrise/sunsets, survival, native plants

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 May 23, 2025 at 9:15 AM.

II. Action Items

A. Approve March Minutes

D. Smith made a motion to Approve minutes.

S. Haigler seconded the motion.

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

B. Board composition

- Falling short of recruitment goals for end of school year (given members transitioning off)
- Need to explore a couple of other leads - Christie and Kitty to follow up
- Revisited discussion about parents as board members
 - Importance of clear agreements & guardrails re: conflicts of interest and confidentiality
 - Identification of various scenarios that may arise
 - Opportunity for ongoing support/coaching and collective awareness of power dynamics
- Next steps
 - Codify initial guidance to share with board
 - Convene small group from governance committee in early June to align on process/timing over summer

C. Community engagement

- Claire and Christie shared high-level takeaways and reflections from CESC process
- Opportunities
 - Replicate some of this process for strategic planning
 - Ongoing communication to broader community
 - Continuing to explore what *types* of priorities broader community provides feedback around

D. Policies

- Governance committee needs
 - determine what level to engage our attorneys vs engaging committees in updating policies year over year
 - map out timeline for recurring review of policies
- Next steps
 - Integrate above into committee priorities for 25/26

III. Updates

A. Other priority updates

- CEO evaluation in process - committee should reconsider timing next year(possibly two mini-reviews, rather than one big mid-year review)
- Board evaluation - 100% participation! Will review results at board retreat.

B.

Updates from committee members

- Christie shared updates about CG's tornado response and Day of Giving (surpassed the goal of \$400K).

IV. Closing Items

A. Next committee meeting

- Group agreed to cancel June meeting

B. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
J. Dixon