

NC Charter School Advisory Committee Meeting
Conference Call
NC Department of Public Instruction

November 9, 2011

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: NCPCSAC	Aaron Means Kwan Graham Timothy Markley John Betterton Richard Hooker Alfred Dillon Rebecca Shore	Jennie Adams Paul Norcross Baker Mitchell Alan Hawkes Joseph Maimone Cheryl Turner Absent: Robert Landry
Attendance: SBE/DPI	<i>State Board of Education</i> Martez Hill <i>State Board of Education – Legal Council</i> Katie Cornetto <i>Office of Charter Schools</i> Joel Medley, Director Patricia Gillott, Admin Asst. Jackie Jenkins, Consultant Dottie Heath, Consultant	<i>Chief Financial Officer</i> Philip Price <i>Attorney General’s Office</i> Laura Crumpler

Webinar	<p>Mr. Medley initiated the meeting by providing an overview of procedures for webinars. He stated that this meeting was a public meeting and that he would mute those attending who were not members of the Council or its staff. He continued by describing how to mute and raise hands to denote questions.</p> <p>Mr. Hill, from the State Board Education (SBE), reminded the council about telephone use. If they were using a telephone, as he was, then they need to push the telephone button to talk.</p> <p>Mr. Medley said that he would begin with a discussion of the proposed by-laws and asked that everyone use the most current version that was distributed late yesterday afternoon. He put the document on the viewer for everyone to see and began with the “Preamble.”</p> <p>A question was asked about clarification of who created The Council – legislature or the SBE. Mr. Medley responded that the SBE policy cited in the preamble is what created this new Council. Mr. Hill continued that that legislature did ask for a report back to legislature. Mr. Norcross added that, technically speaking, the SBE could have refused to create this Council.</p>
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After this initial discussion, technical difficulties began to emerge. Some members could hear the conversation but could not speak through their microphones. The Council members and staff that could respond agreed to postpone this meeting's discussion until December. The bylaws would constitute the first item of business for the face-to-face meeting. Mr. Norcross recommended that the Council converse via emails so that they would be ready to vote with only a brief discussion.

Mr. Medley inquired whether the Council would be amenable to changing the dates from December 12 and 13 to December 13 and 14. Mr. Hill provided an explanation that Mondays are reserved for internal meetings which could require legal counsel and Philip Price. Several members gave their agreement. Since many members were having technical difficulties with the meeting, Mr. Medley asked everyone to email him their availability. He would track that on a chart to then share with everyone.

Mr. Mitchell asked that Mr. Medley also submit draft by-laws that they would be using as the template to all of the Council members. He also wanted the confirmed email addresses of all members because some were being returned. He additionally asked if any members had questions about the by-laws that they send them to all of the members.

Mr. Maimone asked that legal counsel provide a short perspective on these by-laws. Mr. Medley shared his screen so that all members could view the same document, and Ms. Crumpler began walking through these bylaws. She indicated only one real legal issue but stated that other members might have separate questions. She went on to say that it is not possible to have a sub-committee act on behalf of the whole council. Joe Maimone directed everyone's attention to section 8.2 of the by-laws.

Paul Norcross asked that Ms. Crumpler tell the Council from where these draft by-laws originated, and Ms. Crumpler answered that these closely resembled the Textbook Commission's by-laws. Ms. Crumpler went on to say that most state education commissions patterned their by-laws after the SBE's. She recommended that The Council include only the "bare bones" in their by-laws, which would allow them the flexibility to make additions.

A question was asked for clarification of 2.1 and 4.27, which appear to be in conflict. Ms. Crumpler said they were not at odds and clarified that the Council would be able to have electronic meetings via conference calls or webinars but could not vote by email. Members needed to be present at one point in time. 4.27 of the bylaws was placed to show that members cannot vote by email.

Someone made a request for a conflict of interest policy before each meeting. Katie Cornetto said that if a member thinks that he/she may have a conflict, they need to state that before voting begins. Ms. Crumpler added that she and

	<p>Ms. Cornetto would be available should anyone have a question at the meetings. Mr. Mitchell noted that section 9.2 addresses conflict of interest. Ms. Crumpler said the SBE had just approved a new conflict of interest policy and that it would be added to their notebooks. As part of that statement, Council members cannot lobby on either side of any particular issue.</p> <p>Ms. Adams said she was very glad they were not voting for the chair today. She wanted additional time to review candidates' backgrounds before voting.</p> <p>Mr. Maimone asked if it was appropriate to have an open session for public comments. An example of the state legislative committees was mentioned. Ms. Crumpler shared that some commissions or councils do have public comment; however, she indicated that the law does not require them to have public comment. She suggested that the Council focus on the task ahead instead of determining public comment issues. The decision could be made later on through an amendment to the bylaws.</p> <p>Mr. Mitchell shared his intent in sending these by-laws and thought that everyone had received them. He realized that he did not have everyone's correct emails. Mr. Medley said that he, today, would send an email to all council members with a list of members' emails and a request to notify him if the 13th and 14th of December would be acceptable.</p> <p>Mr. Maimone asked how many fast track applications the Office of Charter Schools had received thus far. Mr. Medley responded that he had five in hand but was expecting a lot of them would come tomorrow right at the deadline.</p> <p>Ms. Graham asked what the December meeting would look like. Mr. Medley responded that the Council would discuss and then adopt their by-laws; then a chair and vice chair would be nominated; then The Council would begin looking at the information on the renewal schools followed by sub-committees for their review.</p> <p>A question was asked: "Do we know who is going for chair?" Mr. Medley said that no individual had contacted him directly about serving as chair; however, he stopped and stated that Mr. Norcross had just declared his interest. Ms. Adams offered a suggestion of John Betterton; however, with the technical issues, Mr. Betterton could not answer. Mr. Hill suggested that anyone interested could share that information with Mr. Medley via email.</p>
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 1040am.

Minutes submitted by Dottie Heath, Office of Charter Schools.