

MECC board January 22, 2021

Present: Doherty, Parker, both Browns, Massey, Kinnear

Absent: Adams and Prochaska

Staff: Miller

Consultant: John Peavy, YPTC

Guest: Audrey Torres

Ms. Massey called the meeting to order at 1:00pm, introducing Audrey Torres, TITLE, who is coordinating GISD's due diligence on MECC's proposal for a two part assessment of the partnership between MECC and GISD for the delivery of pre-kindergarten education for Galveston public school students. Each board member present introduced himself/herself to Ms. Torres.

On a motion by Ms. Kinnear and a second by Dr. Brown the minutes of the December 3, 2020 board meeting were approved as distributed. Ms. Brown then asked Mr. Peavy to present the September – December 2020 financial report which had been reviewed in detail with the Finance Committee the previous week. Mr. Peavy did so responding to board members' questions. Of particular note was the \$75,000 that will need to be returned to Internal Revenue Service due to reimbursement check for overpayment of 941's that was sent. Ms. Brown explained that next month's financial report will include a rolling cash flow report as well as more detail in some of the expense categories. Mr. Peavy and Ms. Miller reported that the forgiveness application for CARES Act PPP loan which MECC received last year was filed earlier in the week as well as MECC's application for the second round of PPP funding. Mr. Peavy left the meeting at the conclusion of the Finance Committee report.

In Dr. Prochaska's absence, Ms. Massey reported that the Governance Committee recommended that the board hold off acting on the revisions to MECC's Strategic Plan until the current discussions with GISD are completed. At that time, Ms. Miller and the Governance Committee will incorporate the results of those discussions into the Strategic Plan and present for board review and approval.

Ms. Massey apologized for not convening a January meeting of the Resource Development Committee. She told the board that a \$5.9 million operating request was submitted to The Moody Foundation, and that request will be presented and considered for action at the Foundation's February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. An operating grant from the Kempner Fund arrived earlier in the week. Ms. Miller made note of several end of the year unsolicited donations.

Mr. Parker reported on behalf of the Scholarship Committee, complimenting Family Engagement Department for their work with the MECC families receiving scholarship assistance and the clear presentation of information to the Committee. Ms. Doherty echoed Mr. Parker's compliments.

Dr. Brown reported on behalf of Government Affairs indicating that she, Ms. Adams and Ms. Kinnear should have a legislative report ready for the February board meeting with interim updates as warranted.

Dr. Brown said that she has been conveying updates to the Advisory Board via the new chair, Helena Aucoin. She will consult with Ms. Miller and Ms. Aucoin to set a spring meeting for the Advisors.

Ms. Miller asked Ms. Torres to update the MECC board to the extent she was comfortable on the due diligence process she is charged with leading for GISD as the district considers how to address PreK education in partnership with MECC. Ms. Torres told the board that she was leading a diverse task force, conducting surveys of impacted parties, touring facilities, reaching out to Region IV for advice including information on two early learning centers within the Region, consulting with incoming superintendent Dr. Jerry Gibson. Ms. Miller will travel to Marshall the last week in January to see the MECC that Dr. Gibson operated in that district. Ms. Torres responded to several questions.

Ms. Miller then presented her report, giving the board a "heads up" that she would need to call a special meeting to review the audit so that it could be presented to the GISD board at its February meeting. Ms. Brown, treasurer and chair of Finance Committee, suggested that instead of the audit going first to her committee and then to the board, that the auditors simply meet with the full board.

The board then adjourned into Executive Session at 2:03pm. The board reconvened into open session at 2:30 pm taking no action from matters discussed in the Executive Session. On a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.