

Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2021

Governing Board

Glen Canyon Outdoor Academy

GCOA Mission: GCOA is committed to providing an active student-centered environment through outdoor expeditionary learning, collaborative teachers, and family and community engagement that will develop inquisitive explorers, cultivate creative thinkers and empower resilient learners.

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes ("A.R.S.") § 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the members of the Board of Directors of Glen Canyon Outdoor Academy and to the general public that the board will hold a meeting, open to the public as specified below. The Board of Directors reserves the right to change the order of items on the agenda, with the exception of public hearings set for a specified time.

Pursuant to A.R.S. §§38-431.03.A.1-A.7, the Board of Directors may go into Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, concerning any item on the agenda for discussion, consideration or consultations: (1) of employment issues related to a public officer, appointee or employee; (2) of records exempt by law from public inspection, including the receipt and discussion of information or testimony that is specifically required to be maintained as confidential by state or federal law; (3) for legal advice with attorneys; (4) with attorneys regarding contract negotiations, pending or contemplated litigation or settlement discussions; (5) regarding negotiations with employee organizations; (6) regarding international, interstate or tribal negotiations; or (7) regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property.

Date/Time: September 8, 2021 7:00 PM MST

Where: Page US Post Office located at 44 6th Avenue, Page, AZ (posting only, due to no physical facility)

Virtual Meeting Only: Meeting ID: 987 5794 5061 Passcode: 024020

**ALL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA ARE OPEN FOR DISCUSSION
AND POSSIBLE ACTION**

MEETING AGENDA

I. Opening of Meeting:

A. Call to Order

7:06pm

B. Roll Call - Determine Quorum

Present:

Jim Walker- School Director

Susan Pilkington- President

Justine Carryer- Vice President

Susan Wright- Treasurer

Amee Payne- Secretary

Amy Beenfield

Gwen Lasslo

Whitney Wertz

C. Approval of Agenda

Susan Wright moved to approve the agenda, Amy Beenfield seconded the motion, motion approved.

II. Approval of August 2, 2021 GCOA Board Meeting

Susan W moved to approve the Board meeting minutes from August 3, 2021, Jim Walker seconded, motion approved.

III. Announcements and Comments

A. Statements Concerning Call to the Public

The Call to the Public notification will be added to the GCOA website.

B. Call to the Public

Not Available

IV. Reports:

A. School Director Report

1. Monthly Updates (Finances / Facilities / Enrollment / Staffing)

A MOU (memorandum of understanding) is being set up for IT Technician Aaron Erikson. Justine Carryer is pursuing a partnership contract with EL Education (expeditionary learning), a national program.

The Caviat lease for GCOA office space goes to the Caviat board this month. Lake Powell Construction will present a lease agreement for GCOA along with the cost of construction for the remodel of their facility. The Lake Powell Construction business building looks like the best fit for GCOA's needs. If however, the remodel construction proves too expensive there is an alternative plan in place.

B. Discussion and approval of vouchers and/or related items.

Not Available

C. Report from Susan Pilkington on Board Member Training

Hosted by Coconino County in Flagstaff and attended by Susan Pilkington and Jim Walker, this was a good and informative training. The GCOA board confirmed it is operating correctly and abiding by open meeting laws.

As of now, six or more GCOA board members are not permitted to meet in a group for GCOA discussions unless in a board meeting setting.

A walking quorum was defined as one person talking to another individual and then going to others individually in order to reach an agreement. This method is impermissible and violates open meeting laws.

The board meeting minutes must be posted within 72 hours of the meeting. Charters have different statutory rules which allows for more latitude in how they operate. They are guided by their by-laws and Board of Education-approved application. It is noted that GCOA's charter is its policy manual.

V. Business:

1. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval to contract with Expeditionary Learning as a consultant for school design. - Susan Pilkington
Justine moved to discuss item 1, Amy B seconded.

EL Education specializes in what interests GCOA: community and outdoor exploration, hands-on learning, a focus on equity, service learning, etc. EL helps with school design (they look at school facilities and determine how to differentiate them from public schools) and they are interested in a partnership. A contract with EL will include working with a school designer, attending virtual trainings, networking and collaboration with other schools at regional and national meetings, curriculum assistance, and social/emotional training creation for a total of \$40,200. The contract extends for one year and can be renewed as our needs and budget allow. Justine will work with EL to adapt their program to our cultural needs as GCOA becomes an EL inspired school.

Prior to the selection of EL Education GCOA requested three quotes from the Greenhouse Project, The New Teacher Project, and Live Education Waldorf. Amy B moved to approve item 1, Gwen seconded, motion approved.

2. Discussion and possible action to approve Justine Carryer's curriculum consultant contract to exceed \$10,000. - Susan Pilkington

Gwen moved to discuss item 2, Amy B seconded.

GCOA's fiscal policy requires board approval for any amount that exceeds \$10,000, and at this time it is close to reaching the \$10,000 mark. Susan P sought four bids with only one response, that being for over \$50,000. Justine's consultant work is \$24,000.

Amy moved to approve item 2, Susan W seconded, motion approved.

3. Discussion and possible action to remove Amy Beenfield and Susan Wright as debit card signers with American First Credit Union and add Jim Walker. - Susan Pilkington

Justine moved to discuss item 3, Amy B seconded.

Per GCOA's fiscal policy the school's debit card signers must be the school leader and the operational manager. Before this time, Susan Wright and Amy Beenfield had been serving as GCOA's treasurers. There is no longer a need for them to make purchases for the school.

Susan W moved to approve Jim Walker being added as a signer to the America First Bank Account as the school leader, Amy B seconded, motion approved.

4. Discussion and possible action regarding the nomination of GCOA board members to serve on the GCOA approved move to a five member board. - Jim Walker

Amy B moved to discuss item 4, Susan W seconded.

The new five member board of directors will be the voting board but as per GCOA's by-laws and application the founding board will continue to serve as the overseers of the development and governing of GCOA. The founding board is encouraged to

continue attending board meetings and to participate in discussions, however, they will no longer vote on items. The founding board's role will be to help with the new board's understanding of GCOA's purpose and to help guide the school's development.

Jim Walker suggested that Justine and Susan P to remain on the board of directors as they are an integral part of GCOA and are a strong presence for the school's development.

Mary Francis is interested in joining the board and is supported by all members. Susan P, among others, nominated Gwen Lasslo to remain on the board as Gwen's Human Resources experience is a great asset, especially as GCOA begins the hiring process. Gwen offered her help with HR even if not voted to remain on the board in the future.

It was discussed whether two out of the five board members being paid employees created a conflict but, it was previously discussed with GCOA's lawyer and not deemed a problem, as this is a common occurrence and does not cause a legal issue.

The importance of Susan P and Justine remaining on the board was reiterated as they have remained champions of its cause and are committed to keeping the perspective of ensuring it lives up to its potential.

The importance of having more members on the board that are representative of the community, especially Native-American, was reemphasized.

After the choosing of the five members at this meeting, it is acceptable for any member to resign, at any time, as others more representative of the community are interested in the position and nominated. Amy B, Ameer P, and Whitney Wertz were among the members that would qualify to lead the Parent Advisory Council and thus be the representative for the PAC on the board of directors and a voting member.

Susan W moved to nominate Susan Pilkington, Justine Carryer, Gwen Lasslo, Mary Francis, and Amy Beenfield (PAC member) as the five member board of directors for GCOA, Justine seconded, motion approved.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding GCOA Governing Board meeting dates and location. - Jim Walker

Gwen moved to discuss item 5, Amy B seconded.

Jim proposed to move the meeting to the middle of the week on Wednesday and suggested keeping the meetings virtual the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00pm. The time of the meeting will be reevaluated at the first of the year in 2022. The new quorum will be met with three members out of the five present.

Justine moved to approve item 5, Gwen seconded, motion approved.

VI. Closing of Meeting

A. Next meeting TBD.

The next meeting will be Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 7:00pm. Amy B moved to adjourn meeting at 7:47pm, Gwen seconded, motion approved.