



**UTOPIAN**  
ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

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[www.utopianacademy.com](http://www.utopianacademy.com)

**May 23, 2017**

## **Board Meeting Minutes**

Meeting type: In Person

Attendees: Dr. Aquanette Salter (Interim Board Chair)  
Mr. Anthony Bryant (CFO)  
Mr. Gavin McGuire  
Mr. Rob Fortson (Legal Counsel)  
Mr. Reginald Colbert  
Mr. Joshua Meniffee  
Ms. Angel Massey  
Dr. Artesius Miller (Executive Director)  
Mrs. Melissa Davis (Director of Operations)

### **Meeting Called to Order (6:08 PM)**

#### **Pledge of Allegiance**

Led by *Interim Board Chair*.

#### **Approval of Agenda**

Motion to approve agenda *Anthony Bryant*.

Seconded by *Gavin McGuire*.

Vote. 3-1

Opposed: Angel Massey

#### **Action Agenda**

##### Installation of New Board Members

Motion to accept Joshua Meniffee, Reginald Colbert and Everett Patrick as new board members at Utopian Academy for the Arts by *Anthony Bryant* and seconded by *Gavin McGuire*.

##### New Board Member Profile Highlights:

- Everett Patrick, DeKalb County Public Schools
- Reginald Colbert, Charles Drew Charter School
- Joshua Meniffee, American Cancer Society & SWAYBO

Vote: 3-1,

Opposed: Angel Massey

##### Confirmation of Interim Board Chair

With the resignation of Sharon Daniel, there was a need to elect an interim board chair. Dr. Aquanette Salter was nominated and elected to serve as interim board chair until the annual board meeting to take place in June 2017.

Comment from legal counsel: There is not a legal concern to elect the interim status of board chair, Dr. Aquanette Salter.



Motion to confirm the election of Dr. Aquanette Salter as interim board chair; confirming the interim status until the annual meeting to take place in June by **Anthony Bryant** and seconded by **Joshua Menifee**

Vote: 5-1

1 Opposed: Angel Massey

#### Ratification of Purchase Sale Agreement

Motion to ratify the execution of the purchase sale agreement contract as presented in March, signed on behalf of Utopian Academy for the Arts by Dr. Aquanette Salter by **Anthony Bryant**, seconded by **Gavin McGuire**.

Vote: 5-1

1 Opposed: Angel Massey

#### **Public Comments**

1. Parent: Clarity on the status of board chair election.
2. Staff Member: Collaborative efforts between school and board on seeking organizational goals.

#### **Executive Session-Legal and Real Estate**

Motion to enter executive session to discuss legal and real estate matters by **Anthony Bryant** and seconded by **Joshua Menifee**.

Vote-Unanimous

Motion to adjourn executive session by **Anthony Bryant** and seconded by **Gavin McGuire**.

#### **Recommendations from Executive Session**

Motion to accept the lease agreement with American Charter Development authorizing Dr. Miller to sign on behalf of Utopian, by **Anthony Bryant** and seconded by **Gavin McGuire**.

Vote: 5-0

1 Abstention: Angel Massey

Motion to approve the memorandum with regards to governance investigation provided by legal counsel, to send to the State Charter Schools Commission by **Joshua Menifee**, seconded by **Gavin McGuire**.

Vote: Unanimous

Motion to authorize signature of interim board chair for the resolution of the governing board, reauthorization and approval of actions from the April 20, 2017 board meeting by **Anthony Bryant** and seconded by **Gavin McGuire**.

Vote: 5-0

1 Abstention: Angel Massey

#### **Adjournment (7:59pm)**

**Gavin McGuire** motioned for the board meeting to be adjourned. Seconded by **Joshua Menifee**.