**Minutes of the First Meeting of the Board for the Sarasota Academy of the Arts Charter School**

Date: July 26, 2012

Time: 11:00 a.m.

Location: Julie Rohr Academy office

Purpose of meeting was to discuss the finalization of the charter school application prior to it being submitted to the Sarasota County School Board

Board members present:

Rob McClain

Dan Kennedy

Matt McHugh

Cecilia Blankenship

Julie McHugh

Denise Gagne

Hillary Chojnacki

Kelly Marsh

Bill Marotti

Joe Solano- via phone

* Call to order at 11:08 by Dan Kennedy
* Discussion of any anti-nepotism issues with regards to a 501(c)3 and its management- Rob suggested that the charter enlist outside council who deals specifically with non- profit organizations to make sure that there are no potential landmines that could arise.
* Charter was officially incorporated as a non-profit as of last week- By laws to be adopted in one month. Hillary and Kelly will have to keep a copy of the by-laws as co-secretaries.
* Term limits- Directors will have a 3-year term and may be re-elected without a limitation on the number of terms. Directors will be elected by the majority of the board. Officers will have a 1-year term and may be re-elected without a limitation on the number of terms.
* Hiring Decisions- Dan suggested that hiring/firing decisions need to be made by the principal. It is currently outlined in the by-laws that hiring/firing decisions are made by approval of the board of directors.
* Motion to change item 7.1 of the Bylaws- Dan moved to change item 7.1 of the bylaws to read that all hirinig/firing decisions would be made by the principal of the school. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion and the bylaws were amended unanimously.
* Rob will be the official contact on 501(c)3
* Discussion of staffing schedule/budget- Is budget affordable? Matt felt confident in budget projections as they stand. The principal has to be the highest paid individual. Rob reiterated that it is highly recommended that the board seek outside council to review the budget with regards to anti-nepotism laws.
* Motion to approve the charter application- Dan moved to approve the charter application. Bill seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved
* D&O Policy- It was strongly recommended that a D&O policy be put in place in the future.
* Discussion of opening a bank account- Denise Gagne will assist in opening a bank account for the Charter. Taxpayer ID is needed to start process. It was suggested that school should start raising funds via fundraisers etc.
* Meeting adjourned by Dan at 11:42 a.m.

Outstanding issues:

* Need one formal email address for all Board correspondence
* Need a sheet with all emails, addresses and names of board members to be distributed
* Bank account status