

First State Military Academy “Special” Board Meeting Minutes

9 December 2020

Moment of Silence - Quorum present, in-person and Zoom meeting called to order @ 1737

Board Members Present: In-Person: S. Kidner; L Stapleford, H Reigle, K Yencer, R Capitan, Zoom: K Stark, V Watson, C Martin;

Staff/Founding Committee Members: In-Person: P Gallucci, COL B Wallace; Zoom: S Clark

Motion to Approve Agenda, 2nd, Passed 9 to 0

Secretary's Report: Motion to Approve Nov. minutes 2nd, Passed 9 to 0.

Public Comments: None.

Treasurer's Report: Jim Berg. WSFS banking statements for Nov '20 presented. Noted ongoing USDA withdrawals totaling some \$24k each month. Noted minimal interest earned. Checking account has approx. \$5,962. Noted \$75 reimbursement to R Capitan/supplies for pavers. Escrow accounts established. Motion to Accept Treasurers report, 2nd, passed 9 to 0

Finance Report: Commandant Gallucci. Estimated revenues for FY21 based on 458 Cadets from final 13 November count (delayed C-19). Revenue numbers have increased. Local funds for year are estimated at \$1.305mm. Spending is approx. 42% of FY '21 budget. Transportation total for FY'21 still expected to be \$570,000, still showing about 83% of budgeted total from state. Noted Christiana School District settlement monies of \$16,091, of approx. \$20k, with this the third year. Noted increase in postage/ad spending. Also noted and additional \$34,227 grant money for PPE. Induction Day video not finished.

Web Report presented. Motion to approve Web Report, 2nd passed 9 to 0.

CBOC: S. Kidner. Reported review of FY'21 budget, also noted new CBOC member Don Crews who just joined in November. Next meeting 21 Jan. 2021 at 1:00pm, Media Center.

Commandants Report: Report Attached. Discussion about enrollment for FY'21, with 103 cadets for September 2021. Discussed 5 Dec Open House with virtually all families present for their time slot and will likely replicate for the 9 Jan event. Noted some other up-coming dates.

Hybrid Model/Governor's "Pause" until 11 Jan. '21. Opening statement from Chairman on intent to get cadets back into the classroom and to maintain the current Hybrid model we are using. Commandant Gallucci first noted only one direct Covid case since August. Noted our teachers have done a great job in adapting to both in-person and on-line learning. When Governor suggested his "pause" and going all on-line, numerous school districts immediately did so. This has placed pressure on those schools seeking to stay open in Hybrid. Commandant then presented Leadership's "Pause Plan" - which is a supplement to our current Hybrid model. Those Cadets attending school will do other activities and focus on JRTOC elements that are hard to complete via zoom. Under this plan - teachers also are given the

choice to come to school, or to instruct 100% on-line. However, the recommendation from school leadership is to remain open with this supplement “pause plan.”

Further discussion concerning staff, substitutes, concerns with safety and community spread. Discussed how to maintain operations when short-handed. Noted cadet attendance continues to drop off to 46% across cadet population after Thanksgiving. Also discussed retention and grading from DOE and potentially new policies in '21.

Motion to accept the supplemental “Pause Plan” from school Sr. Leadership for the period 7 Dec to 11 Jan '21, second, after further discussion on the motion, passed 6 yes, 1 no, and 2 Not voting.

Committee Reports:

Academic: Stacey C. Given during Commandant's report earlier.

Communication/Marketing/Enrollment: Chair Leslie S. No report.

H/R (Open): This committee shall be discontinued until call of the Chair.

Facilities: Chair Kevin Y. and Reggie C. Reported that Kevin Y will be looking at the garage to see if it is worth renovating. Discussed briefly new timing for removing items from farmhouse into temporary storage, and then demo farmhouse and garage, then begin construction of maintenance building. Discussed Snow's Painting - will start in the Spring '21.

Organizational Issues:

Closing Remarks None. Meeting adjourned at 1911. **Next Meeting:** 26 January 2021, Cafeteria.