

**High School for Recording Arts
Board of Directors Agenda – DRAFT
August 5, 2020; 9:00 am**

Location: virtual meeting via Google Meet, meet.google.com/voe-ahhw-nha

The mission of the High School for Recording Arts is to provide youth the opportunity to achieve a high school diploma through the exploration and operation of the music business and other creative endeavors

Board Members in attendance: Paula Anderson, Pamela Weems (arrived at beginning of item #4), Dennis Welch, and Darryl Young. Absent: Alicia Sullivan. Ex Officio and others: Executive Director Anthony Simmons; David Ellis and Bonita Hughes of Studio 4; Director of Operations Matt Brown; Andrew Adelman of Designs for Learning

All votes were unanimous unless otherwise stated.

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Anderson, at 9:10am with Welch and Young also in attendance.
2. Approve meeting Agenda – Anderson moved approval of the Agenda as presented; seconded by Welch; and carried.
3. Minutes: Approve Minutes of the June 24 Board meeting – Anderson moved approval of the Minutes as presented; seconded by Young, and carried.
4. Financial Updates
 - Fiscal 2020 financial year status – June 2020 Financial Statement document was sent by Bonita Hughes prior to the meeting, including: Narrative Summary Report; Reporting Period Overview; Balance Sheet dated 6/30/20; HSRA budget with year-to-date actuals (un-audited); Payment Register; and Period Balance Report. Hughes reviewed the report for the Board, noting significant FY20 revenues and expenses are yet to accrue. Year-to-date budget includes the HAS budget reported separately, and grants revenue totaling \$498,034, itemized. **Acceptance of the payment register was moved by Anderson; seconded by Welch, and carried.**
 - Current year financial report, updates – no update
5. Director's Report
 - 2019-20 wrap up and summer program update – Simmons reported, summer hybrid program is wrapping up; HSRA used this as a time to build a new model for engaging students despite limited in-person access.
 - Enrollment and Fall 2020 planning updates – HSRA staff have continued to meet and are building the learning program for the fall. In keeping with choices offered by the Governor for MN schools for the fall, HSRA will continue the hybrid model developed over the summer. Planning will continue with the aim of making HSRA a destination place for students in the fall although the building will not be entirely available. There are currently 120 students registered (this compares to only 50 at this point last year). Staff continue planning marketing for HSRA in its new learning model.
 - Staffing updates – there were four new hires: Megan Lykkehoy, sped. social worker; Nicole Wess and Briget Michaud, HAS Facilitators; and Michael Padgett, humanities

teacher. Left employment at HSRA – Michael Wilson, sped. social worker; Cynthia Rowell, math teacher; Advisors Philip O’Neill and Montana Hirsch; Promise Fellows Reilly Yawn-White; Lewis McCaleb; Peneal Tiruneh; and Keisha Micheau. A math teacher position and three special ed. positions remain available. Professional development will start with staff next week.

- Development and grant updates – Simmons and Anderson reported on the Ramsey County Workforce Development Fund project which is proceeding, the County having approved \$200,000 in funds, mostly for wages for students. Through a remote experiential learning model, students will learn skills and carry out work in four areas: Visual Inclusion Program; Business of Music (working with Rock the Cause); Studio 4 Creative (working with Frogtown Radio); and Diverse Media Institute. HSRA has received an Ambassador Grant providing \$87,000 over two years for mentorship project which HSRA facilitator Haben Ghebregersish is leading. Simmons also reported, the Hewlett Foundation has offered HSRA an opportunity to apply for funds to build HSRA’s model nationally, over 30 months. Finally, through support from the Bush Foundation, HSRA will be running a virtual conference Aug. 14 curated by students, focusing on justice, social change and quality education.

6. Board Committee reports

- School Improvement Committee / Directors’ meeting – no update
- Strategic Planning committee: Strategic plan review / update – Board discussed. Simmons noted wanting to consider a revision to language in the HSRA vision statement referencing “previous setbacks.”

7. New Business

- Set schedule of meetings for 2020-21 – Board discussed, and decided upon the following meeting dates, all Wednesdays, and all at 9:00 am: Sept. 30, 2020; Nov. 11, 2020; Jan. 13, 2021; March 10, 2021; June 9, 2021; and June 23, 2021.
- Update on charter contract negotiations with PUC – Anderson reported, no new developments.

8. Old business

- LIFT MN fiscal sponsorship relationship revisited – Ellis advised the Board, LIFT MN leader Tonya Draughn has requested an extension for six months. Board discussed. **Weems moved, HSRA to continue as fiscal sponsor for LIFT MN for 6 months (through 2/25/2021), with an administrative fee to be decided upon through negotiation with Tonya Draughn; seconded by Young, and carried.**
- Recognition of Carei Thomas – Ellis reported on progress creating artwork with Carei’s photo, to display at the school and to give to his family. The Board will formally recognize the family for donation of Carei Thomas’s piano, donated to HSRA along with a \$1000 scholarship and some of his books.
- HSRA-Studio 4 management contract (expires 6/30/20) – no action
- Finalized Auditor contract for 2020-21 – Hughes forwarded engagement letter with Redpath and Co.
- Executive Director review process updates – review surveys have been completed by five HSRA staff (three who report directly to the ED and two others), two board members, and the ED. Board members are to re-do the survey.

9. Public comment – Adelman shared a grant fact sheet regarding HSRA's McKinney-Vento Homeless Education grant which continues to support the Housing Advocate position,
10. Other business – there was none, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:40am.