



MINUTES

November 18, 2025 | 6:00pm - 7:00pm | Virtual Meeting, Zoom

In Attendance

BOARD MEMBERS		
NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT
Gail Arnall	X	
Ann B. Barnet	X	
Michael D. Barnet	X	
Shawn Chakrabarti	X	
Jacqueline Lopez Ponce		X
Maria Mejia		X
Sarah Friedman		X
Natalia Isaza Brando	X	
Oralia Puente	X	
Raj Thomas	X	
Elaine Weiss		X

- **Others Present:** Haley Wiggins, Marianella Morales, Fernando Saldana, Laurel Kircher, Yinzú Nairouz, Tom Selishev, Alyson Cronquist, Larry Garr, Joan Barclay, Kendall Dorman, Jane Mattson

Approval of Minutes

Minutes from last meeting, September 16, were approved at 6:19 pm, by all present board members (with the exception of Shawn, who joined later).

Motions

Vote to add new student board members Silvia Castro and Ronja Cala approved at 6:08 pm by all present board members: Michael, Gail, Natalia, Ann, Raj, and Oralia.

Meeting unanimously adjourned at 7:08 pm.

Description of Matters Discussed

1. Welcome & Board Business, *Haley and Michael*
- Haley and Michael welcomed all, after which the roll call vote and vote to add new student board members took place.

- Ronja Cala and Silvia Castro were added to the board as student members to replace previous student members Jacqueline Lopez Ponce and Maria Mejia.
- The board members all introduced themselves to Ronja and Silvia.
- Minutes from last meeting were approved, with a note that the formation of a governance committee needs to be added.
- Board Governance Update, *Joan Barclay*
- Joan, Michael, Elaine, and Oralia make up the new governance committee. Joan gave a presentation on the work they are doing.
- Board members should complete an on-demand training in the spring. A board retreat in fall 2026 is also recommended.
- Michael is heading the creation of a survey as a board self-evaluation tool. Planned to be rolled out at the end of 2026.
- Bylaws should be reviewed regularly in order to identify gaps in MSA standards.
- Finance & Facility Updates, *Jane*
- *Finances*
- We are projected to do better than budgeted, since we received funding that we weren't sure if we would get.
- Gail asked how much of the budget goes to TFP. Rent is \$119,000, plus case management, housekeeping, and childcare funds.
- *Facility Loan*
- Joan asked when the first payment is due, which is in June 2027. The plan is to draw up to \$5M and reassess to determine the maximum loan amount needed.
- Construction Update, *Marianella*
- Marianella showed some photos of the construction progress and an updated schedule.
- 2. Executive Director's Report, *Haley*
- There will be an in-person get-together on January 10th around 1 pm at Larry's home.
- Program Updates, *Fernando and Laurel*
- Enrollment
- Fernando thanked board members for supporting the food distributions and more.
- We are almost at the end of the auditory period. 238 students are enrolled/eligible for funding. (We get funding for 225 this year but have 13 backups.) In-seat attendance is 77%.
- Michael asked if we are doing mostly in-person classes now and Laurel answered yes, only one class is still online that used to be in person.
- Academic and Middle States
- The MSA site visit in October went very well! They verbally recommended that we be accredited and the team chair is sending a report to Middle States. In spring, they will vote on our accreditation status.

Next Meeting

Date | time, Location

Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm. Next meeting is planned for January 20, 2026.