

# Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

### **MEETING MINUTES**

**MAY 14, 2003**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on May 14, 2003, beginning at 6:00 p.m., in the Board Room of the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.

**Board members present:**

Ms. Lynn Ammons  
Mrs. Clotilda Diggs  
Mr. Bryan England  
Mr. Russ Hart  
Ms. Wilhelmina McBride  
Mrs. Frankie Newman

Mr. Vince Rhodes  
Mr. Carlisle Roddey  
Dr. Louise Scott  
Mr. Butch Spires  
Mrs. Elizabeth Thrailkill  
Ms. Suzanne Turner

**Staff members present:**

Mr. Pat Smith  
Col. Joe Davis  
Mrs. Diana Smith  
Ms. Judith James  
Mrs. Shannon Hicks

Col. Ric Favati  
Mrs. Gloria Robinson  
Mrs. Gloria Woodward  
Mrs. Peggy Williamson

**Special Guests:**

Mr. George Smith

Mrs. Ruby Smith

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 p.m. A brief ceremony was held to honor Mr. George Smith for his hard work and dedication during his tenure at the Opportunity School. Mr. Smith was presented with a framed Concurrent Resolution from the South Carolina Legislature.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**Mr. Roddey made a motion to approve the agenda. Mr. England seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mr. Spires made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2003, Board meeting. Ms. Ammons seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Smith reported on the following:

- We have not received the results of the GED for the 65 cadets tested on April 1 and 2. Another 26 cadets will test on May 21 and 22. Hopefully, of the 86 cadets tested this cycle, 60 or so will pass which will be approximately 130 GED graduates for the year. The most GED graduates in my 28 years at the Opportunity School.
- The Senate version of the budget restores \$117,657 of the House cut of \$345,527.
- Currently, we have a total of 126 cadets enrolled for Cycle X: 108 males and 18 females.
- The JROTC Drill Team has participated in four Drill Competitions with excellent results. List of awards won is attached.
- Cadet Chris Porter, a recent graduate of WLGOS, is serving in Iraq and his picture was featured in a news magazine brought to the school by his mother. His dream is to complete his service and return to WLGOS in a cadre position.
- We won 3 awards this year. Mrs. Shannon Hicks was responsible for obtaining the MBE Small Agency of the Year award, and Mrs. Gloria Woodward was instrumental in obtaining the Top Ten Status by Human Affairs Commission for exceeding 90% of our employment goals for 3 consecutive years. WLGOS was a Silver Award Recipient, too.
- The JROTC Ball is scheduled for Friday, May 23, 2003, at the Embassy Suites located on 200 Stoneridge Drive beginning at 5:30 p.m.
- Graduation is scheduled for Saturday, June 14, at Fort Jackson, Post #3, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Mrs. Beatrice Manning will be our guest speaker.
- AOC Solutions evaluated the program last week. They listed some of the strengths of the program as the facilities, GED focused program, significant TABE improvement, community service, and dedication of the staff in working with the students. Areas identified as needing strengthening are the processes and post-residential placement.
- Col. Favati reported Senator Hollings had one of our cadets come to Washington to testify before the Senate sub-committee in an effort to save the funding for a drug program. Missouri closed its program due to a lack of state funding which has made more money available to our program. We have \$125,000 to spend before the end of June. Direct reimbursement dollars was \$310,000 to increase next year to \$360,000.

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**PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

No Report

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

No Report

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mr. Spires deferred to Mr. Pat Smith for the budget report. We are on target to finish the year with no problems.

**PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

Mrs. Thraikill deferred to Mr. Pat Smith for a video presentation compiled by Mrs. Peggy Williamson with the cooperation of the cadets featuring the various cadet activities for Cycle X. Col. Davis reported that 46 cadets passed the GED.

**BUILDING AND GROUNDS COMMITTEE**

No Report

**FOUNDATION COMMITTEE**

No Report

**WIL LOU GRAY AWARD COMMITTEE**

Mr. Roddey made a motion to present 2 WLGOS awards, one for the individual and one for the agency. Mrs. Newman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Rhodes nominated the Columbia Urban League, Inc., as the WLGOS agency award winner. Mr. McBride seconded the nomination. Mr. England nominated Service Over Self as the WLGOS agency award winner. Ms. Turner seconded the nomination. Vote was taken, the Columbia Urban League, Inc., won the award.

Mr. Hart nominated Mr. Doc Phillips of Spartanburg as the individual award winner. Ms. Turner seconded the nomination. Mrs. Newman nominated Dr. Mary Collins of Columbia as the individual award winner. Ms. Ammons seconded the nomination. Vote was taken, Mr. Doc Phillips won the award.

**OLD BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Louise Scott was presented with a plaque in appreciation of her 27 years of service on the board and in recognition of her last board meeting.

Mr. Spires made a motion to drop the word "required" from the housing policy in the Board Policy Manual. Mrs. Newman seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Roddey made a motion to go into Executive Session. Mr. Spires seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mr. Rhodes made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Ms. Ammons seconded the motion. The motion passed.

With no further business to discuss a motion was made by Mr. Rhodes to adjourn. Mr. Roddey seconded the motion. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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***Next meeting will be held Wednesday, July 9, 2003, beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room located at the Wil Lou Gray Opportunity School.***

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