

SouthWest Metro Educational Cooperative - District 6088

Foundation Governing Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2015 4:30 PM

SouthWest Metro Educational Cooperative

1. CALL TO ORDER

Laurie called the meeting to order at 4:35 pm.

2. FISCAL SPONSOR UPDATES

Update from Mary Romansky on Good to Go Kids with Board Discussion to Follow.

Mary updated that 300 kids are being served food every week and about 30 from the Co-op. Looking at starting a prom program and graduation pictures. Looking at adding an elementary school to be involved in the program that would increase to 400 kids being served annually. Good to Go Kids won an award from Representative Klein for Community Service.

Over the summer Mary had to not renew a contract for a person due to behavior and performance. She has been retaliatory to Mary since the cancellation of the contract. Mary expressed concern about the reputation of the foundation with all this going on. She wants the board to discuss how the foundation may want to proceed knowing how retaliatory this person has been.

The board discussed whether there is any direct impact for the foundation. It was determined that there wasn't a foreseen impact.

Renee stated that she organizes the food distribution at the Co-op and the students are so thankful for the program.

3. APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES

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John moved to approve, Joan second, unanimously approved.

4. FINANCE REPORT

Finance Report Discussion - Vote if possible - Financials will be available at the meeting.

Board Vote - Approval of Submission of Minnesota Attorney General's Annual Report

John moved to approve, Joan second, unanimously approved.

5. TEACHER APPRECIATION

Teacher Appreciation is Friday, April 17th ??

Discussion - Who will be participating? Items needed to purchase/solicit, etc.

Joan shared – muffins, yogurt, napkins and silverware, juice, fruit was donated Plan for 200 people. Tracy, Joy, or Joyce could pick it up.

Lesley make list including volume and give to staff and they will get. Event starts at 7:30. Set-up at 7:00 a.m. Facility use sheet for 4 8 – ft table. Add PA. Look at table clothes.

Mary, Norma, Renee, and Laurie will at the appreciation. Send out email for a drawing gift ideas.

6. SCHOLARSHIP CANDIDATE INTERVIEWS

Scholarship Interviews will take place April 7 - 9 from 8 a.m. until Noon.

Identify who will be participating each day of interviews (Need 2 - 3 people each day)

So far:

Tuesday – Norma Timmons
Wednesday - Mary Jorissen
Thursday - Laurie Gauer, Joan Cummings

Lesley will follow-up with other key past interviewers including Brenda, Beth, Danelle, etc.

7. SCHOLARSHIP MENTORS DISCUSSION - Recap

Joyce will report in March on putting a request out to retired SWMEC staff to be available as a mentor. Other possibilities of mentors Ron Strand and Jim Weygand, etc.

8. BOARD RECRUITMENT AND MEMBER CHANGES

VOTE - Accepting resignation of Russ St. John. Russ was recruited to join the Chaska Human Rights Commission. He is stepping down his board involvement, but would like to stay involved in an advisory role and with his scholarship.

John moved to approve, Joan second, unanimously approved.

Discuss - Board recruiting and potential members. Press release seeking members and outreach to parents of students are a couple ideas.

Discussion included skill sets sought and encouraging brainstorming. Attorney, finance person, marketing, parent, door openers, politician, etc are some ideas.

9. 2015 GALA - EARLY AUCTION

Review of 2014 Gala Auction Results and Determine Targets for Auction Items for 2015

Lesley will begin updating Google Docs with 2015 Gala information and data collecting.

 [2014 Auction List Winning Bids.xls](#)

Expand Wine Pull, student build a shed to donate (materials cost \$400) and generate \$2,000 for sale price, bean bag game, does cosmo need models and auction off. Lesley will make sure Master list is on Google Docs.

10. NEW BEGINNINGS FUNDING DISCUSSION

Update from Task Force Member on New Beginnings Task Force and what the foundation may do to help.

Darren reported that the costs of New Beginnings is staff, child care, and parenting skills. We have to have all three of these things are needed to work to serve the girls in the program. The cost of the New Beginnings Program is \$600,000. With all the revenue coming to the program, it is still short about \$50,000 each year. The member districts have provided funding for the \$50,000. United Way that provides \$150,000 of the \$600,000 annually. United Way is scaling back and will no longer be funding the New Beginnings Program. The program is funded through June 30, 2015.

Darren went to superintendent and board and approved to sustain the New Beginnings Program for the next 18 months. Started with the child care team to also work as para professionals in other programs. Looking at Mdetwaketan Sioux to increase donation, Dick Ames. There is a need for child care and looking it at running it as a full child care. There is a bill at legislator that may help.

Darren is nervous about the 2 year window to float it to allow for adequate planning and research for sustainability.

11. UPDATE: SCHOOL BOARD, TEACHERS, ETC.

Update from Teachers - Renee Lips Bush
Update from School Board - John Weinand
Update from Co-op Administration - Darren Kermes

12. UPDATE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DUTIES AND UPCOMING MEETINGS

On the Foundation tab on the website is the ability to make online donations to the foundation through GIVEMN.org. Thanks Ginger for adding the widget to the website!

2015 Scholarship

Teacher Appreciation

2015 Gala

Securing Location for Board Retreat – Wooddale Church 212 reduced rate, Laurie's church,

13. OTHER

SAVE THE DATES:

Scholarship Interview, April 7, 8, and 9, 8 - Noon, Location 401 Building

Teacher Appreciation, Friday, April 17, 7 - 9 a.m., Location 401 Building

Board Retreat - Saturday, May 16, 2015, 8 - Noon, Location TBD

Scholarship Awards Breakfast, Thursday, May 21, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Location 401 Building

14. ADJOURN

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 24, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. at Valley Green