

SouthWest Metro Educational Foundation

Board Meeting

Tuesday, January 22, 2019 4:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Lesley Chester, William Thompson, Stephanie Erickson, Melissa Carlson, Norma Timmons, Joyce Eissinger, John Weinand, Mary Hanson, Michael Sokol, Laurie Gauer

Absent: Robyn Dylla, Danelle Simenson, Ginger Gregory

1. CALL TO ORDER
Presenter: Norma Timmons

Meeting called to order at 4:09pm.

2. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER MINUTES
Board Vote Needed
Presenter: Norma Timmons

Board vote to approve November Minutes moved by Laurie Gauer first with Stephanie Erickson second, followed by unanimous vote.

 [SWMEF Minutes 11-27-18.docx](#)

3. FINANCE REPORT - REVIEW OF NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER FINANCIALS
Board Vote Needed
Presenter: Lesley Chester and Melissa Carlson

Reviewed November and December financial reports. Nothing to report on Good to Go Kids. In the future, breaking out the scholarship listing in Balance Sheet by Class to provide additional insight into unclaimed funds would be helpful. Two scholarships have been paid out in the last month. Lesley still to talk with Mary Romansky about Admin Fee.

Board vote to approve November and December financials moved by Laurie Gauer first with Joyce Eissinger second, followed by unanimous vote.

4. SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Presenter: Stephanie Erickson

Scholarship Committee met last month to review the application forms and discuss the potential of offering second year scholarship where students could apply for.

While offering second year scholarships would be helpful to students, donors would need to approve the use of their funds in this way, certain rules and processes would need to be created, and additional people resources would be needed. The committee will continue discussion around second year scholarships. There are currently some unclaimed funds by students. Students have 18 months to claim their scholarship per policy. Unclaimed scholarship funds could potentially go towards second year scholarships.

Noteworthy dates:

February 1 Application Submissions Open

March 8 Application Deadline

April 9-11 Interviews

The slate of scholarship winners should be approved during the April board meeting. Lesley will be working with Cindy Walters to schedule the awards breakfast in May and will be sending out calendar events for the upcoming scholarship dates.

5. GALA COMMITTEE REPORT

Presenter: Norma Timmons

The Gala Committee met last week.

The 2019 gala will be held on October 25 at Hazeltine. John is working to confirm having Chris Egert as emcee. There will be two bars again this year. Some of the possible themes of discussion were along the lines of red carpet black tie, formal and tacky attire, gangster/prohibition, and Harry Potter.

With Halloween nearby the gala event this year, Harry Potter may be a popular theme. Serving a themed drink this year of butter beer would be just one way to embrace the theme. The board has agreed that Harry Potter would be the theme of choice for the gala this year.

The committee also discussed ideas for hosting a second annual fundraising event that could be some sort of alcohol tasting (beer or wine), cooking contest, or student art showcase. The board is interested in having the committee further discuss a second event.

6. OTHER COMMITTEES

Presenter: Norma Timmons

Having a grant committee was briefly discussed and would be helpful to the board when trying to review and approve requests. Some staff should be included in the committee.

The foundation has struggled to get the mentoring program going. At this time, the foundation may not have the capacity to support a mentoring program unless there are additional people available to mentor students in various programs. So far Anne Runck has been the leading organizer for mentoring. The future of the mentorship offerings will be a discussion item in an upcoming board meeting and Anne Runck will be invited to join.

7. UPDATES FROM TEACHERS AND SCHOOL BOARD

Update from Teachers - Stephanie Erickson

Five students graduated in the new caps and gowns awarded by the foundation's grant. The students enjoyed wearing the new attire during the graduation ceremony. A new semester has just started. There have been more students this year, thus resulting in having a new art teacher hired.

Update from School Board - John Weinand

Leadership will be staying the same with John as chair. Four new districts have submitted applications for membership.

8. OTHER

Presenter: Lesley Chester

No other items of discussion.

9. ADJOURN

Presenter: Norma Timmons

January meeting adjourned at 5:13pm.

Next Meeting is Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 4:30 pm.