

L.E.A.F Board of Directors
Minutes of the Meeting
Monday, December 19, 2011

The meeting was called to order by President Barclay Carriar at 4:45pm.

Members present: Tami DeLand, Barclay Carriar, Debbie Erickson, Marty Heine, Rolf Jacobson, Jill Johnson, Pat Krueger, Craig Lietha, Chris McElroy, John Oxtan, Jim Pehler, Chuck Provinzino, Mark Sakry, Ken Voss, Phil Welter, Bruce Hentges

Agenda

The Treasurer's report was removed from the meeting agenda and item C (Approval of bill payments for November) was removed from the consent agenda, as these are not yet ready for action. A correction to the minutes stating that the new board nominees will be elected at the January, not February meeting was noted.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Call to Order and Additions to the agenda
- B. Approval of minutes of November 21, 2011 Board meeting (attached)
- C. Fundraising Report for November (attached)

Sakry moved and Pehler seconded approval of the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion/action items

1. Grant policy for activities that include non-public student participants.

This item had been suggested for discussion by the full board following the recent action taken regarding a request from the Icebreakers girls' hockey team. Hentges noted that the *J.A. Wedum Foundation* Grant has been received, therefore covering the funds allocated to the Icebreakers. Support for this group provided an example of an activity that is made available to 742 students only through a shared, cooperative effort that includes students from non-public schools. Hentges reminded the members that there are several other activities that also survive only because of combined efforts. In most cases, 742 students comprise the majority of students involved, but students from neighboring districts, private schools and home schooling have and do currently participate.

Hentges explained that some compensation from partnering schools is provided in support of these activities - most on a per pupil basis, and all are handled by the school district. He assured members that insurance matters are not of concern, as students provide their own individual insurance, and anything involving negligence would be a district matter.

The possibility of a request to fund a program including 742 students but administered by a non-public or neighboring district school was introduced. This led to a conversation about what might be used to define a public school activity. It was suggested that a set of criteria such as a minimal percentage of 742 students might be reasonable.

Several members spoke to the benefits of on-going LEAF support of the cooperative programs. The practice can be viewed as positive for the organization – emphasizing service to a broader community, and encouraging broader support. There was confidence expressed in the allocations committee's ability to use discretion and reasoned judgment regarding requests.

Consensus was that while this matter merits monitoring, new policy is not needed at this time. No action was taken.

2. Leaf Committees

Hentges explained that it is prudent to take some time to review current standing committees. As the organization grows, increasing amounts of work takes place at the committee level. This is generally considered to be a good and effective model for a healthy organization. He also noted that several committee chairs, Grant Writing, Nominations and Budget, are retiring from the board and should be replaced. (Although non-board members are welcome on standing committees and have served as chairs.)

Hentges reminded the board that each member will be assigned to a standing committee and (if possible) an event committee. Members should make the committee preference known to the Executive Director before the January meeting. New board members are usually assigned to allocations as an introduction to the LEAF mission. Nominations Committee Chair Ken Voss announced that a list of board nominees will be sent to current members for review prior to the January meeting.

3. Executive Director's Report

Awards and Recognition Event: Hentges reported that the event went very well. Thanks go to the planning committee and to the Apollo theatre department for an excellent production.

Night of the Stars:

Sponsorships are coming in.

Board members are asked to consider contributing to the purchase of raffle items such as a TV, Ipad and/or other tablet or high-end electronic device. This was done last year and made very successful through some impromptu board teamwork. **Please let Bruce know if you are interested in participating with a donation.*

WJON radio and the St. Cloud Times are providing reduced cost advertising packages, flyers are being designed and the on-line auction is coming together. As always, items for that are also needed, and board members are encouraged to suggest potential service and/or item donors. Since most ticket revenue goes directly to the schools, auction items and sponsorships are the main sources of funding netted through the NOTS event.

Strategic Planning: Clear Path LLC (Marty Moran) has agreed to facilitate our session later in March. He will meet with the Executive Committee to finalize arrangements.

Carriar adjourned the meeting at 5:25

Respectfully submitted,
Pat Krueger
Secretary