

LOCAL EDUCATION ACTIVITIES FOUNDATION

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2015

LOCATION: CMCF Office Conference Room

Call to Order by Joanne Dorsher

Joanne Dorsher called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

In attendance were Executive Director Bruce Hentges and Board Members: Mike LaFontaine, Pat Krueger, Patricia Welter, Pat Mullen, Heidi Everett, Janet Reagan, Joe Mullen, Laura Pfannenstein, Mark Helminick, Marty Heine, Mike Janey, and Elizabeth Reisinger.

Report on Awards Reception – Night of the Stars

Bruce Hentges reported on both events noting that the web page is now operational and has information concerning the events. Observation regarding Awards Reception is that additional promotion is needed to increase attendance but that recipients of awards were all very appreciative. Night of the Stars was an excellent event with both nights sold out. The directors deserve considerable praise for their efforts as do all of the performers.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Pat Welter, seconded by Heidi Everett for approval. Consent Agenda approved unanimously.

Fundraising Report

Report by Executive Director Hentges regarding January income of in excess of \$15,000. General discussion regarding financials presented and received by Board Members.

PAKRAT Bus Project

Powerpoint presentation by Executive Director Hentges. Highlight that the program is a school district program supported by LEAF. Start up cost approximately \$15,000 with annual costs estimated at \$2,700. Discussion concerning project included need for confirmation that school district is in agreement to put the program into operation. LEAF has previously approved similar projects. The expectation is that a “civic partner,” such as Rotary, would share in the program costs both start up and annual operating costs. There is a need for the Board of Education to approve the program at its March, 2015 meeting. Discussion regarding payment of LEAF’s contribution to be made out of the academic grant cycle. It is estimated that LEAF’s contribution would be in the range of

\$5,000 - \$7,500. The initial contribution would be taken outside of the regular grant process and ultimately funded through the academic fund. Motion by Joe Mullen, seconded by Janet Reagan to approve \$10,000 of LEAF money subject to agreement by the school district and identification and contribution from a civic partner for a minimum amount to be established. Also, an ad hoc special projects grant making committee will be called together by Hentges to develop a policy for such “out of cycle” grants in the future. Finally, the school district will be clearly identified as the owner the PAKRAT bus and maintenance entity for the bus along with providing staffing for the bus. Motion passed on unanimous vote.

Discussion Regarding Secretary Position on Board

Proposal and discussion to hire a professional with the expected cost of \$50 each month, \$600 annually. Person would be an independent contractor, not an employee working an estimated 3 hours each month. Motion by Pat Mullen, seconded by Patricia Welter to approve hire. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Homeless Student Service Fund presented by Joanne Dorsher

Fund to supply emergency services for the needs of homeless students and their family. Pointed out that the school district cannot legally pay for emergency hotel and emergency food. Requests for assistance coming through teachers and social workers with all benefits and money used going to students of the school district. It was clarified that payments are made directly to Coborn’s and the hotel and not to the students and their family. LEAF has created a fund which currently stands at about \$23,000. The District has obtained a credit card to purchase approved homeless student supplies, etc. LEAF has given an initial balance of \$4,400 for this credit card to be used in payment. By consensus the board agreed to keep working with the school district on the project.

Discussion regarding the “Ticket Money” issue raised by the School Board

Substantial discussion by the Board occurred. Pat Krueger provided background and history of the project and LEAF in regard to the initial creation of the organization. The school district provided a start up loan to LEAF which has been paid back in its entirety. In addition funding was provided through a surcharge on ticket prices, 50% of which went immediately back to the schools, Apollo and Tech, and the other 50% went to the LEAF Activities fund which was then in turn granted to the various schools within the school district. It was understood that the school board could end the surcharge payment to LEAF at any time. In 2014 approximately \$22,000 in total came to LEAF with 50% of that immediately returned to Tech and Apollo in equal amounts and the remaining 50% distributed out by LEAF according to the original agreement.

Substantial Discussion regarding the State Auditors Letter concerning the School District’s contribution to a Non-Profit

Recently the policy was changed to include the suggestion that a school district should neither give nor raise money for a non-profit. It is believed the school board will be addressing this issue at its February, 2015 meeting. Pat Mullen presented a proposal regarding a presentation to the Board on this issue. His presentation prompted a full and vigorous discussion and a policy statement was proposed which would encourage continued supportive relationship between school district and LEAF including LEAF confirming its desire to welcome an opportunity to participate in future decisions by the School Board regarding use of activity's funds.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. LaFontaine
Secretary Pro Temp