

September 9, 2015 Meeting Minutes
West Chester Area Education Foundation

In attendance: Steve Brightbill, Bryan Brockson, Rose Cappelli, Marc Ernest, Todd Goodstein, Steve Krug, Rob Partridge, Mark Purcell, Lauren Ranalli, Vicki Reilly, Deb Sahijwani, Jim Scanlon, John Scully, Shelby Speaker, Chris Woods
WCASD Staff: Tracy Dukert, Susan Speaker

Not present: Carolyn Comitta, Dave Flamer, Liz Golding, Robin Harkins, Ken Witmer

- A. Call to Order: Bryan Brockson called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.
- B. Bryan Brockson requested a motion to approve the minutes from June 24, 2015. Chris Woods and Jim Scanlon made a motion to approve. The motion passed.
- C. Treasurer's Report: John Scully reviewed the budget for 2015-2016. He also reviewed the list of disbursements and asked for approval for five new disbursements. Marc Ernest and Steve Krug made a motion to approve the disbursements. The motion carried. Marc Ernest and Steve Krug made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. The motion passed. The Treasurer's report will be filed for audit.
- D. Strategic Plan Reports Review:
 - Goal A: Increase Community Visibility and Support
Bryan Brockson reported that the committee is working to establish an alumni group which could serve as resources for students offering mentorship, job shadowing, and possibly contributions for grants. Initially this group would be a subcommittee of the Ed Foundation. The committee is in the process of creating a memorandum of approval to make sure the goals of the alumni group are in line with those of the Ed Foundation. They hope to have this memorandum ready for approval next month. Another goal of the committee is to create an initial board of directors for the alumni group.
 - Goal B: Increase Financial and Program Partnerships
Jim Scanlon reported that the main objective of the committee is to increase the foundation's financial resources to \$80,000. EITC Funds are presently being held up due to the state budget impasse. The committee is working to solicit more participation from area banks. Bentley has committed \$11,000 in grants; will continue with the Science Olympiad matching gifts partnership and add a similar partnership with DECA. The Annual Breakfast will be held in April, 2016 with the

goal of raising \$10,000 in funds; will seek sponsorships before Jan.1; planning committee for the breakfast to meet in January, 2016. The Holiday Fund Raiser will again be held in December, 2015.

The committee is planning an Art Auction for Nov. 4, 2016 that will be held at the Chester County Historical Society. It will be run by an outside agency. Student artwork will be included.

Goal C: Provide Financial Support for On-Campus Programs

Rose Cappelli reported for the committee. Submission dates were revised; the new flyer will be sent to the teaching staff; Jim will ask principals to speak about the mini-grant opportunities with their staffs. Available funds for mini-grants have been reduced from \$40,000 to \$28,750 due to the state budget impasse and uncertain availability of EITC funds. Hopefully we will be able to increase this amount as funds become available. Individual grants are still at \$2500 per school and community grants at \$2000 per grant. There is \$6000 available for the community grants. (Note: Members from the committee met after the meeting to create a policy for repeat applicants. In an effort to consider new participants, a statement will be added to the application stating that teachers who have received previous grants will be considered as funds permit.)

Goal D: Maintain Effective and Efficient Foundation Board

Jim Scanlon reported for the committee. Two funding raising committees need to be established – one for the breakfast and one for the fall fundraiser. Two new board members will be needed to replace those vacating the board in October, 2015; addition of another board member.

E. Reorganization Meeting – October 14, 2015

Current board ends October 31, 2015. Two new board members will be needed to fill vacated slots; recommendation to add one new board member.

Recommended candidates are Dianne Herrin, Mark Purcell, and Vicki Reilly; vitas for the candidates were distributed in the packet. Board introductions were made by those present. The nominating committee will include Jim Scanlon and Lauren Ranalli.

Other business:

Deb Sahijwani spoke about a new program being offered at the high school level, Learn to Earn. Participating seniors will be able to explore a potential career area by participating in a four-week onsite internship experience at the end of the school year. The program will be limited to twenty students per school for the first year.

F. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.

Next meeting: October 14, 2015 at 7:30 a.m.