



# MARS PLANET FOUNDATION

## January 20 2025 Meeting Minutes

Board Members	Present	Ambassadors	Present
Beth Ziegler - President	X	Jennifer Antonio	
Sandy Page – Vice President	X	Helianna Galvis-Orr	
Kim Vandall - Treasurer	X	Tricia Holland	
Kelly Dunn - Secretary	X	Robin Parsons	
Jeannie Irwin	X	Lee Ann Riner	
Amy Riggio	X		
Amanda Salkeld	X	<b>MASD Admin</b>	
Vickie Zaccari	X	Dr. Travis Mineard	X
Jennifer DiCuccio			
Madelynn Barkley	X		

The meeting was called to order at 6:51 pm.

**Meeting Minutes** – The Meeting Minutes from November 2025 were discussed.

- ❖ Kim Vandall motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Vickie Zaccari. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

### Teacher Grant Presentation

- ❖ Mrs. Carey – Entrepreneurship Recipe Book Project
  - Grant request is for \$5,644 to create, market, and sell recipe books. This project is teaching students in the Technology Entrepreneurship classes how to develop an idea for a product, bring the product to fruition, and then market and sell the product. She laid out resource costs for the project to include printing and binding books, rental of an art gallery in Mars to showcase and sell the books, and a nominal amount to provide food and beverages the evening of the event. Books will be sold for \$15/each, and the money earned from sales will be donated to Mars Community Food Bank. If this is a successful project, it will be requested to add to the building budget for completion in the following years. This year, approximately 300 students will be a part of this project, and 180 books will be printed.

### Teacher Grant Presentation Discussion

- ❖ Entrepreneurship Recipe Book Project
  - Dr. Travis Mineard explained that the Mars Admin office has the capabilities to print and create these books within the district, and funds won't be needed to pay an outside printer. Money can be saved by doing the printing in-house.
  - A motion was made by Beth Ziegler to approve the grant with funding not to exceed \$3,000. Kim Vandall seconds the motion, and a vote was passed unanimously by all voting board members.

### President's Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler

- ❖ February 20<sup>th</sup> will be a check presentation by NexTier Bank at Mars Centennial School. Board members wishing to attend must let Beth know ASAP.

### **Treasurer Report – Presented by Kim Vandall**

- ❖ ETIC Funds received - \$40,000 from NextTier Bank
- ❖ Previous approved grant for Ombea Response was revised by the school district due to the original vendor not adhering to all school policy requirements of new vendors. A new vendor with a similar product was found (Protech Projection System); however, the cost was a bit higher than the approved grant amount. Mars School District offered to cover the difference.
  - **Jeannie Irwin made a motion to continue the grant approval with the new vendor and provide the original \$3,000 requested for the purchase. Kim Vandall seconds the motion, and a vote among the board was unanimous yes with Mars School District covering the overage cost of the purchase.**

### **Scholarship Report – Presented by Vickie Zaccari**

- ❖ McConnell scholarship is not returning.
- ❖ Mars High School Musical will judge and present their own scholarship.

### **Fundraising Reports – Presented by Beth Ziegler**

- ❖ Scoreboard renewal letters will be going out at the end of January.

### **EITC Report – Amy Riggio**

- ❖ No new business

### **Technology Report – Presented by Jeannie Irwin**

- ❖ Jeannie Irwin proposed setting up an online shop for the Mars Planet Foundation that is open all year round. After a later date she will do a presentation to show how it would work and the potential revenue it could generate.

### **Communications Report – Presented by Jeannie Irwin**

- ❖ Email will be put together and sent out in February about applying for scholarships. This information will also become a social media post to publish.

### **New Business**

- ❖ Kim Vandall, with the aid of Dr McMahon, presented the idea of founding the LaVerne C. Frick Achieve Fund. The purpose of this fund will be to fulfill the needs of students in the Mars Area School District whose families don't have the financial ability to meet every need. The LaVerne C Frick Achieve Fund would be a source of immediate assistance when the district liaison reaches out with a request. Recipients will remain anonymous to the MPF. The fund has a founding donor who will donate \$15,000 for the start-up. It would be the goal to fundraise and for donations in order to grow the fund. Kim would take on the responsibility of setting up the financials for the fund as well as putting processes in place for fulfilling needs requested by the district liaison.
- ❖ Jeannie Irwin motions to approve the formation of the LaVerne C Frick Achieve Fund, and the motion is seconded by Sandy Page. The motion was carried unanimously by all voting board members.

Vicki Zaccari motioned to adjourn the meeting, which Kim Vandall seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Next meeting will be held Tuesday February 17, 2026 in the Mars Area School District Admin building board room.

**Respectfully submitted by,**

Kelly Dunn