



# MARS PLANET FOUNDATION

## January 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 Meeting Minutes

Board Members	Present	Ambassadors	Present
Beth Ziegler - President	X	Jennifer Antonio	
Amanda Webster – V. President		Amanda Benninger	
Kim Vandall - Treasurer		Helianna Galvis-Orr	
Kelly Dunn – Secretary	X	Tricia Holland	X
Maura DiGioia	X	Robin Parsons	
Amy Riggio		Lee Ann Riner	
Aaron Rose	X	Mr. Chris Churilla	X
Vickie Zaccari	X	<b>MASD Admin</b>	
		Dr. Samantha Flanhofer	
		Mr. Travis Mineard	X
		Mr. Douglas Skelley	

The meeting was called to order at 6:34pm.

### REORGANIZATION MEETING

#### Mars Planet Foundation 2025 Board Membership

- ❖ Beth Ziegler nominated Kelly Dunn and Amanda Webster to join the Mars Planet Foundation board, seconded by Vickie Zaccari. Nomination was unanimously approved.

#### Election of 2025 Officers

- ❖ Election of President for one (1) year (Nomination does not require a second)
  - **Vickie Zaccari** nominated **Beth Ziegler**, seconded by Kelly Dunn. **Vickie Zaccari** motioned to close the nomination. Beth Ziegler's nomination was unanimously approved.
- ❖ Election of Vice President for one (1) year (Nomination does not require a second)
  - **Beth Ziegler** nominated **Amanda Webster**, seconded by Vickie Zaccari, **Beth Ziegler** motioned to close the nomination. Amanda Webster nomination was unanimously approved.
- ❖ Election of Secretary for one (1) year (Nomination does not require a second)
  - **Beth Ziegler** nominated **Kelly Dunn, Aaron Rose** seconded the nomination, **Vickie Zaccari** motioned to close the nomination. Kelly Dunn's nomination was unanimously approved.
- ❖ Election of Treasurer for one (1) year (Nomination does not require a second)
  - **Beth Ziegler** nominated **Kim Vandall, Kelly Dunn** seconded the nomination, **Aaron Rose** motioned to close the nomination. Kim Vandall's nomination was unanimously approved.

#### Establish 2025 Board Meeting Dates – Location is MASD Board Room, Start time is 6:30pm

- ❖ Tuesday February 18<sup>th</sup> (Location change: MAHS Library)
- ❖ Tuesday March 18<sup>th</sup> (Location change: MAHS Library)
- ❖ Tuesday April 15<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday June 17<sup>th</sup> (Location TBD)
- ❖ Tuesday July 15<sup>th</sup> (if needed) (Location TBD)
- ❖ Monday August 18<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday September 16<sup>th</sup>

- ❖ Tuesday October 21<sup>st</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday November 18<sup>th</sup>
- ❖ Tuesday January 20<sup>th</sup> 2026

#### **Appoint Committee Leadership**

- ❖ **Fundraising** – Amanda Webster
- ❖ **Scholarships** – Vickie Zaccari
- ❖ **EITC** – Amy Riggio
- ❖ **Teacher Enrichment Grants** – Maura DiGioia
- ❖ **Communications (Newsletter and Social Media)** – Maura DiGioia
- ❖ **Technology** – Aaron Rose

**This concludes the re-organization meeting.**

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#### **REGULAR MEETING**

##### **Teacher Grant Presentations**

- ❖ Mr. Churilla – Giant Chess Board for Mars Area Centennial School
  - Chess club was started in 2022. Since then several students gather in the school library to play chess and teach each other how to play. Students can play in the morning and during indoor recess with their own chess boards that they bring to school or teachers have purchased. Mr. Churilla is interested in purchasing two giant chess sets which would be a great learning experience for outdoor recess and possible indoor recess in the winter as well.
  - Mr. Churilla is requesting \$1,406.50 to fulfill this grant request.
- ❖ Mr. Churilla – Defying Gravity in STEAM Style! DRONE Team Program at the Centennial school
  - The CoDroneEDU is a programmable drone, meant to learn in the classroom. With a durable and safe frame, programmable lights, and access to its 7 sensors, it's an excellent learning tool and a great way to enhance coding and engineering skills. The CoDrone Edu pack includes 18 drones with additional accessories as well as a professional development course, 23 block-coding lessons where students will learn how to code the lights and sounds, flown to a certain height, and other flying techniques. The software is compatible with chrome-books, which are available to the Centennial school. The drones will be used cross-curricular with PE classes in the Centennial gym, with activities such as drone racing and obstacle courses.
  - Mr. Churilla is requesting \$5,199.99 to fulfill this grant request.

##### **Teacher Grant Presentation Discussion**

- ❖ Giant Chess Boards grant discussion
  - Beth Ziegler motioned to fund 3 Giant Chess Boards for a total not to exceed \$2,200, to be funded by EITC funds, seconded by Aaron Rose. Unanimously approved by all present board members.
- ❖ Defying Gravity in STEAM style! CoDroneEDU Pack grant discussion
  - Kelly Dunn motioned to fund the CoDroneEDU pack grant for \$5,199.99 as presented, to be funded by EITC funds, seconded by Vickie Zaccari. Unanimously approved by all present board members.

**Meeting Minutes** – The Meeting Minutes from November 18<sup>th</sup> 2024 were discussed.

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

#### **Presidents Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler**

- ❖ Mr. Black is pursuing the Paul Purcell grant for the Wallop's Island trip. Beth Ziegler to assist in application preparation.

#### **Treasurer Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler**

- ❖ Financial report has been e-mailed by Kim Vandall.
- ❖ Financial report was reviewed at length.

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

- ❖ Closely working with Guidance on the available scholarships.
- ❖ Foundation is currently managing 16 scholarships.
- ❖ Discussed a slight increase to the Scholarship and Academic Awards Ceremony budget due to rising food costs.
  - Beth Ziegler motioned to budget \$2,700 for the Scholarship and Academic Awards Ceremony, seconded by Aaron Rose. Motion unanimously approved by all present board members.

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

- ❖ Poinsettia Fundraiser
  - \$85.00 in sales
- ❖ Peloton Raffle Fundraiser
  - Participants will be directed to the GiveSmart website. Maura DiGioia will be posting the advertisement on the MPF website over the next two days.
    - Building Principals will also be asked to distribute via email lists; J. Schwobel and K. Caruso will be asked for assistance in advertising in eCommunicator and District social media channels; and GiveSmart text messages will be sent.
  - Tickets will be available from January 17<sup>th</sup> through February 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ❖ Open House discussion
  - MAE Open House - March 6<sup>th</sup>
  - T. Holland to send e-mails to the building principals regarding open house dates.
- ❖ Scoreboard
  - Scoreboard renewal letters to be sent over the next month.

#### **EITC Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler**

- ❖ DCED EITC Rep contacted us regarding the EITC application.
  - One item needed corrected, everything else looked good so it will be approved once resubmitted.

#### **Technology Report – Presented by Aaron Rose**

- ❖ No report.

#### **Communications Report – Presented by Maura DiGioia**

- ❖ Social Media
- ❖ Newsletter
  - Discussed content for the Winter newsletter.

**New Business**

❖ No report.

Vickie Zaccari motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Kelly Dunn. Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 18<sup>th</sup> 2025, in the MAHS Library.

**Respectfully submitted by,**

Tricia Holland