

Mars Planet Foundation Board Meeting – May 19th 2021 Minutes

Board Members	Present	Ambassadors	Present
Kevin Hagen	X	Cara Schultz	
Wyatt Lee	X	Becky Brown	
Andrea Bowser	X	Megan Lenz	
Tricia Holland	X	Robin Parsons	
Christine Valenta		John Neurohr	
Vickie Zaccari	X	Diana Jacoby	X
Dayle Ferguson		Katie Caruso	
Carol Knox	X	Jennifer Bainbridge	
Rochelle Seideneck		Jennifer DiCuccio	
Dr. Elizabeth McMahon			

The meeting was called to order at 6:02pm.

Teacher Grant Presentations

- A new teacher grant request will be presented next meeting.

Previous Minutes - The Meeting Minutes from April 16th, 2021 were discussed. Andrea asked that Treasurers Report be amended.

- Carol Knox motioned to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Wyatt Lee.

Treasurer Report – Andrea Bowser

- The Foundation continues to incur expenses from the Walk Around Mars fundraiser; currently estimated to be approximately \$6,700.
- Andrea noted that American Natural’s contribution is still outstanding.

EITC Report - Kevin Hagen

No update at this time.

Scholarship Report – e-mail from Megan Lenz

- All scholarship recipients have been determined and checks have been dispersed to the Guidance Department.
- Appreciation was extended to everyone who produced a video for the scholarship recipients.

Walk Around Mars Fundraiser(Carol Knox)

- Discussed survey results. 46 respondents out of 330 registered participants– overall, fundraiser very well received. Survey results are attached.
- Re-cap: Instaprints was great to work with on swag bags and t-shirts. Foundation members received compliments on the quality of the t-shirts. The swag bags and content were wonderful. Katie Caruso did a phenomenal job with the logo and themed week advertising.

- In the future, the Foundation hopes to have the ability to go into the schools in-person to give information to teachers and students regarding the fundraiser. Discussed concerns over participation.
- Discussed possibility of creating some type of scavenger hunt with approachable businesses.
- Discussed alumni week and if we would be able to sustain something like this in the future. Discussed possible expectation of scholarship winners to participate.
- Discussed traffic to the Mars Planet Foundation website, the foundation facebook page, and the number of likes to the facebook page have increased significantly due to the walk.
- Trophy will be awarded to MAE tomorrow at 11AM. Representative from Mars Bank, Mr. Lape, Kevin Hagen, and the committee will be in attendance along with the Butler Eagle.
- Discussed if this event should be held yearly or bi-annually. Those Board Members in attendance agreed that the event should be held bi-annually and we should consider another community fundraiser to host during the other years. It was also decided to postpone the Golf Outing.

Fundraising Reports

- April Dinner - Dented Keg(Wyatt Lee)
 - Dented Keg had shut down ordering due to multiple incomplete orders which had an adverse impact on response.
- May Dinner - Farmhouse Café(Wyatt Lee)
 - Pasta dinner; currently there are 19 orders placed. Wyatt is going to send another text to our database.
 - i. Discussed the character limits with regard to the text messages. At this time MobileCause is only able to accommodate 134 characters, including the link. At this time MobileCause has no plans to update this feature.
- Summer Dinner – Food Truck
 - Sweet Peas Ice Cream Truck – Sweet Peas Ice Cream truck is willing to work with us on a fundraiser. Tricia Holland to follow-up with the Adams Twp Supervisors to see if they would be willing to waive the solicitation fee. Otherwise, we would need to find a resident from each neighborhood. More details to follow.

Technology Report

- Wyatt Lee was invited to participate in 2 national MobileCause webinars to talk about our website and experience. Our organization received national attention!
- Discussed the possibility of acquiring more foundation e-mail addresses so multiple board members would have the ability to send professional e-mails from the foundation.
 - Briefly discussed Microsoft Office 365

Newsletter

- The most recent issue of the Mars Planet Foundation newsletter was released for distribution. Appreciation was extended to John and Rochelle for all the work that went into the newsletter.

New Business

- **New Fundraising Opportunities:** Ambassador Jennifer DiCuccio proposed a new fundraising opportunity during the last meeting. This fundraiser would be a mailer called “Give 180” with an impact statement. The mailer would be distributed at the beginning of the school year encouraging parents to donate \$1 for each day their child is in school.
 - Tricia Holland will work with Jennifer on this fundraiser.
- Kevin Hagen is proposing the following amendment to the by-laws; Section 2.13. – Non-partisan. In order to maintain the Foundation’s 501©(3) status, board members are “prohibited from directly or indirectly participating in – or intervening in – any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for elective public office” while working on behalf of the Foundation. Additionally, the Foundation shall not take a position on any public policy statements. No action taken at this time.
- General discussion ensued regarding the current number of Board Members, and the current number of seats reserved for the Mars Area School Board members. There was discussion on potentially limiting the number of school board seats.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, June 15th 2021 at the Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted by,

Tricia Holland

MPF Secretary