



# MARS PLANET FOUNDATION

## October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Board Members	Present	Ambassadors	Present
Beth Ziegler – President	X	Diana Jacoby	
Carol Knox – Vice President		Jenn Giesler	
Amy Riggio – Treasurer	X	Bethany Ratcliffe	
Tricia Holland – Secretary	X	Robin Parsons	
Maura DiGioia	X	Heliana Orr	X
Kevin Hagen	X		
Liz Porco			
Lee Ann Riner	X	<b>MASD Admin</b>	
Jenn Stuber		Dr. Elizabeth McMahon	
Doug Wolf	X	<b>Alternate School Board Member</b>	
Vickie Zaccari	X	Nicole Thurner	

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 pm.

### Teacher Grant Presentation

- ❖ No Teacher Grant requests this month.

**Meeting Minutes** – The Meeting Minutes from September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023, were discussed.

- ❖ Amy Riggio motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Kevin Hagen. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

### Treasurer Report – Presented by Amy Riggio

- ❖ The Foundation financial report was sent via e-mail.
- ❖ Accountant report is completed and will be emailed to MPF members once finalized.
- ❖ Scoreboard payments were received from Eat’N Park (for 2024-2025) and Mars Bank (for 2023-2024).
- ❖ Received check from Fun Slides for \$70 for fall fundraiser.

### Scholarship Report – Presented by Lee Ann Riner

- ❖ Contact made with Mrs. Colleen Tosadori and plans reviewed for the Awards banquet this Spring. Mrs. Amy Lauten is the new guidance secretary and will be assisting Mrs. Tosadori with the Awards banquet.
- ❖ Date for Academic Excellence and Scholarship Awards Ceremony is May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

### Fundraising Reports

- ❖ **Walk Around Mars/Dance-A-Thon report presented by Beth Ziegler:** Beth met with Mrs. Semler to discuss a dance-a-thon fundraiser at the Primary Center sponsored by Karski and Spokane Orthodontics. The Foundation ultimately decided a dance-a-thon limited to only certain buildings during the school day is unattainable for two reasons: 1) we are unable to secure a time/day during the school year to hold the event and 2) it is too difficult to segregate the funds raised by building and only spend said funds on teacher grants requested by teachers in the applicable buildings. Will discuss other options with Karski and Spokane Orthodontics, including sponsorship opportunities for large fundraising event in 2025.

- ❖ Color Run District-wide fundraiser was discussed and Board members will continue discussion during the special MPF meeting on October 25th, 2023.
- ❖ Play2Wear offering an online Holiday shop fundraising opportunity. Beth will contact Play2Wear to discuss further.
- ❖ **Scoreboard report presented by Doug Wolf:**
- ❖ Eat’N Park secured for 2024-2025 small spot on the MAC scoreboard.
- ❖ Awaiting response from Keelan Dental and M@c Bid.
- ❖ Scoreboard signs produced by current sign vendor did not meet expectations. New vendor (Signs by Rick) chosen to produce scoreboard signs. Pricing for scoreboard signs using Signs by Rick are as follows:
  - Large Sign \$325
  - Small Sign \$250
  - Installation of signs \$350 per occurrence
- ❖ Vickie Zaccari in communication with Geyer Construction and First Choice Mortgage for potential future sponsorship.
- ❖ **Baird Grant Opportunity presented by Lee Ann Riner:** Mars Area School Board received information on a grant opportunity through a community member/Baird employee.
- ❖ Baird grant requires pre-determined project; cannot obtain funds and decide how to apply funds later.
- ❖ Baird Grant information will be shared with various school principals and staff. The Foundation will assist any Mars teacher with a specific project in mind who would like to apply for the grant.
- ❖ **Banners presented by Beth Ziegler:** Board members discussed proposed edits to Policies 913.2 and 915 and agree with all proposed edits. Beth Ziegler will communicate agreement to School Board.

#### **EITC Report** – Presented by Doug Wolf

- ❖ 2023 Educational Improvement Organization Renewal Application Guidelines have been published and will be reviewed.
- ❖ The Foundation plans to cover AP exam fees for students that receive free and reduced lunches using EITC funds. Doug will reach out to Mrs. Rosswog/School guidance counselors to coordinate.

#### **Technology Report** – Presented by Kevin Hagen

- ❖ GiveSmart renewal will be coming up soon. Potential to re-evaluate need for GiveSmart depending on platform used for any potential Color Run.

#### **Communications Report**

- ❖ Social media
  - Need post (separate from the created event) on Foundation Facebook page for Elevate fundraiser on November 9.
- ❖ Newsletter
  - No update.

#### **New Business**

- ❖ Community member Helianna Orr recommended a wellness opportunity for teachers during an in-service day. Foundation Bylaws permit funding professional development. Beth Ziegler to reach out to Dr McMahon for potential funding opportunities.

- ❖ Chatham University offers sensory field trips at its campus in Gibsonia. Ms. Orr will reach out to Dr. Mineard to make him aware of this opportunity for special education students and the potential attendant grant opportunity.

Lee Ann Riner motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Beth Ziegler. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next meeting will be October 25th, 2023 at the MASD Admin building at 6:30 pm to discuss fundraising opportunities.

**Respectfully submitted by Lee Ann Riner**