



MARS PLANET FOUNDATION

April 15, 2025 Meeting Minutes

Board Members	Present	Ambassadors	Present
Beth Ziegler - President	X	Jennifer Antonio	
Amanda Webster– Vice President		Amanda Benninger	
Kim Vandall - Treasurer	X	Helianna Galvis-Orr	
Kelly Dunn - Secretary	X	Tricia Holland	
Sandy Page	X	Robin Parsons	
Amy Riggio		Lee Ann Riner	
Aaron Rose			
Vickie Zaccari	X	MASD Admin	
		Dr. Samantha Flanhofer	
		Mr. Travis Mineard	x
		Mr. Douglas Skelley	

The meeting was called to order at 6:32pm.

Meeting Minutes – The Meeting Minutes from March 2025 were discussed.

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

Teacher Grant Presentation #1

- ❖ Mr. Emhardt/Mr. Roos – Bioengineering Hydroponics
 - Request for 5 hydroponic towers to be used for Bio-Engineering classes. These can also be utilized by Planet Preschool and Food Science classes as these towers will provide opportunity for growth of herbs and vegetables. Currently they have created their own systems with PVC piping and homemade mechanics. Herbs and vegetables grown are given to the cafeteria for lunch preparation as well.
 - Mr. Emhardt and Mr. Roos are requesting \$7,115 to fulfill this grant request.

Teacher Grant Presentation Discussion #1

- ❖ Bioengineer Hydroponic Towers- Grant discussion
 - Sandy Page motioned to approve the grant in the full amount of \$7,115 with EITC funds used to fulfill. Motion was seconded by Kim Vandall. Vote was unanimous to approve the grant as submitted and fully fund.

Teacher Grant Presentation #2

- ❖ Mr. Varlotta – Achieve Scholarship
 - Request funds to provide three college or technical-school-bound Mars Area High School Seniors with a needs-based \$1,000 non-renewable scholarship to help defray the costs of the first year of post-secondary education.
 - Eligibility for scholarships will be based on acceptance to a full-time secondary institution or technical school. Eligibility will also be confirmed based on the Student Aid Index (SAI), which Mars High School guidance counselors have access to.

Teacher Grant Presentation Discussion #2

- ❖ Achieve Scholarship - Scholarship discussion

- ❖ Sandy Page motioned to approve the creation and funding of the Achieve Scholarship in the amount of \$3,000, to be funded in the form of (3) \$1,000 scholarships. Seconded by Kelly Dunn. Unanimously voted upon for approval by all members.

Teacher Grant Amendment: Previous Awarded Grant

- ❖ Mr. Schoeffel/Mrs. Baysek – CPR Training Materials
 - Supplemental materials requested that will aid and assist in using the CPR mannequins that were in the initial grant request. These materials will include attachments, AED training materials, and replacement parts.
 - Mr. Schoeffel and Mrs Baysek are requesting an additional \$2,462.97 for these supplemental materials

Teacher Grant Amendment Discussion

- ❖ CPR Supplemental materials were discussed – Review all line items requested
- ❖ Beth Ziegler motioned to approve funding of the supplemental materials, to be funded in the amount requested. Motion was seconded by Vickie Zaccari. Unanimously voted to approve as submitted by all members in attendance.

Teacher Grant Potential Approval list by Mrs Zollner

- ❖ Mrs. Zollner provided a list of items seeking guidance as to what items may be covered by Mars Planet Foundation in the form of grant approval.
- ❖ After reviewing each line item as a group, it was agreed that Beth Ziegler will meet with Mrs. Zollner to review the list and try to garner more specific details of each line item as they are very vague on their own.

President Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler

- ❖ MAE received popcorn from free donation
- ❖ Potential Development Director was floated as an idea in association with Mars School Board for employment. Further discussion to be conducted internally with Mars Planet Foundation Board as well as with Mars Area School District.

Treasurer Report – Presented by Kim Vandall

- ❖ Financial report has been e-mailed.
- ❖ EITC funds use by date has been clarified. EITC funds must be used at the end of the fiscal year received plus 12 months. This provides more time for funds to be awarded by Mars Planet Foundation.
- ❖ Kim recommended a format change in financials and will work on a draft to present.
- ❖ Mars Planet Foundation still has not been billed for awarded grants and materials purchased. Contact the District Business Manager again in the morning.

Scholarship Report – Presented by Vickie Zaccari

- ❖ Scholarship application date has closed and all applications were sent out to the respective readers. The guidance office would like to have all recipients identified by April 19th. Thank you to all who volunteered to read and make selections. All applications were sent with all names or identifiers redacted.
- ❖ Scholarship presenters are needed for the evening of Wednesday May 14th. Please let Vickie know if you would be able to assist. She is in need of 11 presenters.

Fundraising Reports – Presented by

- ❖ Still one opportunity for MAC Scoreboard sponsor. \$5,000 space is available

EITC Report – Beth Ziegler

- ❖ Prior to this meeting there was a balance of \$20,830 in EITC funds

Technology Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler

- ❖ Completed transfer of ownership of Teacher Grant Google form to admin account.

Communications Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler – Same topic as last month

- ❖ Social Media
 - Need Communications Chair Volunteer
- ❖ Newsletter
 - The template for the newsletter is created in Canva and needs volunteers to complete

New Business

- ❖ No report.

Kim Vandall motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Sandy Page. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm.

The next meeting will be May 20, 2025, in the Board Room at the MASD Admin building.

Respectfully submitted by,

Kelly Dunn