

MARS PLANET FOUNDATION

PO Box 1031
MARS, PENNSYLVANIA 16046
(724) 898-1561



March 24, 2026 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		Robin Parsons	
Jeannie Irwin	X	Lee Ann Riner	
Amy Riggio		Amy Madonna	X
Amanda Salkeld	X	MASD Admin	
Vickie Zaccari	X	Dr. Travis Mineard	X
Jennifer DiCuccio	X		
Madelynn Barkley	X		

Amanda Salkeld recorded meeting minutes on behalf of Kelly Dunn- Secretary on Tuesday, March 24, 2026.

Meeting Minutes – The Meeting Minutes from February 2026 were discussed.

- Jeannie Irwin motioned to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Jennifer DiCuccio. The meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Teacher Grant Presentation

- **Kim Detore**, First Grade Teacher, presented on **Versatiles** which are currently used for students above a first-grade level for enrichment. Versatiles serve as a self-checking program that strengthens different math skills.
 - Second grade kits contain 8 answer cases, 24 student activity books - 4 of each title.
 - 32 pages (approximately) in each book
 - Mrs. Detore reports that 3-7 students per year benefit from Versatiles currently in her classroom.

Five second grade kits were requested at a price of \$1,674.95

Teacher Grant Presentation Discussion

- Jeannie moved to approve six sets for second grade and three sets for first grade, contingent on if the requesting teachers would use the three sets for first grade. Jennifer DiCuccio seconded the

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motion. A unanimous vote was subsequently received. This request would be funded out of EITC funds.

President's Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler

None. Treasurer Report – Presented by Kim Vandall

- The Achieve Fund was indicated to have a separate checking account and credit card. Debbie Brandstetter does not need to invoice for this fund. Dr. McMahon needs to sign off on each of these requests. The question was posed of where we take it from here and who is going to roll it out to principals. Dr. Mineard noted that in current programs the guidance counselors discuss with the building principals. It was concluded that Dr. Mineard will talk to Dr. McMahon to propose talking to principals and guidance counselors.
- Beth also had a comment on the Treasurers Report that Kim circulated, concluding that Kim will remove the Musical Boosters line item from the Scholarship portion of the Treasurers Report.

Scholarship Report – Presented by Vickie Zaccari and Jeannie Irwin

- Vickie reached out to former foundation members re: reviewing scholarship applications; Doug Wolf and Robin Parsons volunteered to read scholarship submissions. Jeannie to send list to all board members, and if you do not want to read, let Jeannie know.
- There is also a need for presenters. Jeannie and Beth offered to present the scholarships on May 13th. Vickie is going to ask Doug Wolf as well if he wants to present. Vickie is planning to send emails to outside scholarship organizations to see who will be in attendance and who will write their own presentations. Social hour was discussed to take place from 5:30 – 6:30PM, catered by Just In Thyme. Vickie is going to follow up on the shift in timing.
- Vickie is supposed to be receiving a check for the Kean Scholarship.
- Kim needs to know the full list for cutting checks (scholarship, student, etc.).

Jeannie presented that a donor wants the Foundation to hold \$25,000 and give \$2,000 to a senior this year and in respective subsequent years. A music teacher would be responsible for making the selection of the recipient. Beth Ziegler made a motion to accept the scholarship money, contingent on making it irrevocable and having stipulations for admin. fees of \$100 for anything other than just holding it/ circumstances warrant. Jeannie seconded this motion. A unanimous vote was subsequently received.

- The subject of the MPF School Spirit Scholarship was discussed. It was indicated that the intent is not to have it be merit based. Beth is going to send Jeannie the old wording to send to guidance (from 2022). Madelynn inquired of what guidance communicated and if kids have to apply vs. are they selected. Jeannie is going to follow up on this. It was noted that 45 kids applied, and the selection should be restricted to those that applied.

Fundraising Report – Presented by Beth Ziegler

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- Beth provided an update on the scoreboard progress. There is currently one open spot for a small logo- \$3,000 -(Eat n Park) and one open spot for a large logo -\$5,000- (Kress Restoration). It was noted that banners are also an option for donations from businesses for \$850 per year. Potential replacements to fill these spots included businesses such as Dunkin Donuts, McDonalds, Chick Fil A, Aldi, and AJ Meyer. Beth plans to send an email on who we want to target.
- Jen shared ideas around Giving Trees. She indicated that we need to decide specifically what we want to focus on and have features such as QR codes and descriptive/ instructional signage or similar. Time of year, wish lists, teacher grants considerations were also discussed. The board was asked to give these ideas some thought.

EITC Report

- Nothing to report

Technology Report – Presented by Jeannie Irwin

- Nothing to report

Communications Report – Presented by Jeannie Irwin

- Nothing to report

New Business

- Amanda Salkeld discussed that her husband is on the board of the Southern Butler County Business Association and an opportunity to present on the foundation is forthcoming at their monthly Business Before Breakfast event. More information to follow once details emerge.

Beth Ziegler motioned to adjourn the meeting, which Sandy Page seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:20PM. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21st, in the Mars Area High School Library.