

MINUTES

MISF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

June 9, 2021

7:30 AM-9:30 AM

ZOOM MEETING

AGENDA

- Review and approve minutes from 3/3/21 meeting
- President's report
- Updates
 - * Development report
 - * Membership report
 - * Leadership changes
 - * Advocacy update
 - * Program report
 - * Education Awards recap
 - * STEM Education Conference Aug 3-4
 - * School Leadership Conference – Sept. 27-29
- Governance Update
- Finance report: balance sheet, income statement, restricted funds tracking, cash flow, dashboard
- FY22 proposed budget
- Strategic plan prework and status
- Other business
- Executive Session

MINUTES

Those present: Tim Benz, Teri McCloughan, Josh Killian, Brian Lynch, Wyayn Rasmussen

Staff Present: Michele Skare

Meeting began at 7:33 AM.

Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Brian Lynch, seconded by Josh Killian, motion passed.

President's Report

We are back at a more normal pace and routine as the year ends. We are focusing on year-end cleanup items and setting a summer audit date (July). Renewal invoices will be sent to current members on July 1. Tim will be reaching out to nonmembers with whom we have engaged in the last year, telling them about membership and benefits of MISF.

Federal Programs (EANS, ESSER) Update: We worked closely with MDE as nonpublic schools applied for the first round of EANS funding. About half of the nonpublics in the state applied for funds. Some did not apply because they took the second round of PPP loans (making them ineligible for EANS funds), and others do not apply because they do not accept funding from the federal government. All funds that were not applied for were added back into the pool, so that schools that did apply received larger amounts than originally anticipated. There has been no word yet on the next round of EANS funding. They are possibly waiting for schools to spend down the first round they received. The second round has no reimbursement provision, so funds will need to be spent on goods/services going forward.

Development Report

We have been approved for/awarded grants from GHR Foundation, Schulze Family Foundation, and Xcel Energy. We have already received our grant from the Schott Foundation. The 3M grant was submitted in early May. The Development Report and Grant Pipeline Report have been posted. We are in a strong position at the end of the year.

Membership Report

We will bill all current members for renewal on July 1. The Board approved a rate increase at the March meeting, so new membership rate is \$5 per student, schools with less than fifty-six students will be billed a flat rate of \$275. New members may join for \$3.75 for the first year, if they agree to stay on for the second year at \$5. Associate members will also be billed \$275; those relationships are very important and strategic – giving us greater reach into groups of schools.

Tim had good discussions with Our Lady of Peace and Chesterton Academy in Hopkins, and both have indicated that they will be joining. St. Vincent de Paul in Brooklyn Park has also expressed an interest in rejoining.

We are tracking leadership changes in all nonpublic schools, in partnership with Sarah Mueller of MNSAA. We have a list of 35 changes so far, with more coming in every day. In addition to working with MNSAA, we also track the WELS Call reports and the Archdiocese website.

Advocacy Report

There is currently a great deal of posturing at the legislature around school choice issues. The governor has already said that “private school vouchers are a no-go.” We are currently watching legislation for Education Savings Accounts, Education Tax Credits, counseling expansion through K-6, and safe schools legislation. There will be a special session of the legislature beginning on June 14, and if they have not reached a budget deal by June 30, there will be a state shutdown.

Chas Anderson has done a great job as our lobbyist this year, keeping us up to date on legislation, and helping us send advocacy and action alerts to our members and donors. She will be at the next board meeting to give an update.

Program Report

The 2021 Education Awards were very well received in spite of some technical glitches with our provider, W2 Films. They were disappointed and felt bad about the problems with the live stream, and billed us at a discounted

rate. In comparing this virtual program to the last awards event, however, we found that more people were watching, and fundraising actually went **up** during the time that the live stream was down. (Some people just thought it was a planned intermission.)

STEM Education Conference – We surveyed our members and previous attendees, and the majority wanted a virtual or hybrid conference, so we will be doing another virtual conference on August 3 – 4.

School Leadership Conference – We are planning to be in person at Ruttger’s this year on September 27-29. The planning committee is meeting tomorrow to discuss session topics. Registration will begin sometime between 8/1-8/15. There is a discounted fee for first-time attendees – 2 nights for the price of 1.

Finance Report

The Finance report is posted on the website. Brian and Tim highlighted a few items: The PPP loan is still showing on the balance sheet; we anticipate that it will be forgiven, and then will come off. We currently have \$144K in reserves (savings account), which is approximately 3 months’ worth of operating expenses. The work around rebranding has been paid for through outside services/general operating funds, no reserve funds have been used for this.

FY22 Budget

The budget documents have been posted on the website. Brian highlighted these items: Good to see that this is an “in the black” budget. 3% salary increases have been built in for all staff. Direct Program Expense includes participant fees, office move and rebranding costs. Variance in the sponsorship line is due to holding two awards events in the same year. With our office move next year rent cost will go up, but total occupancy costs will be down because we will no longer have \$700/mo in parking expense. We will need to look at how much more we want to grow our reserves, which are currently at 3 months. Perhaps 6 months is the goal.

Chair asked for a motion from the Executive Committee which recommends that the full Board approve the 2021-22 budget as presented. So moved by Wyayn Rasmussen, seconded by Josh Killian; motion passed.

Strategic Planning Update

Tim distributed a confidential document with proposed rebranding name, logo and strategies, and the committee discussed the items listed. This document will be distributed to the full board, with a request that any feedback or questions be directed to Teri and Tim.

Executive Session

MISF staff were excused as the Committee met in Executive Session starting at 9:28 AM



Wyayn Rasmussen – Secretary

6/29/2021