

CSEF Meeting

Wednesday February 24, 2016

Call to Order at 6:00PM

Present:

Jeni McIntyre
Shannon Cooper
Robin DeLine
Audrey Debri
Bryan Kahler
Chad Wight
Tom Noreen
Patricia Eary
Laura VanDuyn

The board welcomed visitor Sara Hendricks. Sara is interested in becoming a possible trustee and treasurer for CSEF.

Matt Shoffner is no longer able to sit in for the BOE due to time constraints. Patricia Eary will be our Board of Education representative. The members welcomed Patricia. Discussion around the mission of CSEF and how we support the students of CSPS was presented to our visitor, Sara Hendricks. The Trustees made their introductions to Sara and welcomed her to the meeting.

Presentations

We had two grant presentations to the membership.

Heather Phillips with students; Caelun, Aubrey, Abby and Cooper presented for their grant, Reading Rocks.

John Willette with students; Gwen and Lily presented for their grant, Cedar Springs Free Little Library.

After presentations the membership started discussions of the grant proposals and which to approve.

Before debating the proposals, the membership had a couple of concerns to address.

1. **Question: Are we accepting requests after the deadline?** No, we wanted to be firm with our deadline to be fair to those who submitted on time. Consensus was we will hold them until the next grant deadline and consider them later.
2. **A concern of one trustee was the request of a grant for more than the \$5,000 mentioned on the grant application. The trustee was concerned as the Middle School was not allowed to ask for a larger grant because the application maximum was \$5,000.** The membership had discussed entertaining grant requests over the \$5,000 limit at a previous meeting and agreed they would look at them and consider the merits of them. The trustee who had a concern was not present at that meeting and the thinking was that may have contributed to the confusion.

The membership also noted that the Middle School had the same opportunity to submit a grant request and could have done so if they chose to submit one.

3. How long are we having the funds available?

- **Do we set a deadline for the use of the funds once grant is approved.**
- **Do we put it on the grant?**
- Thinking is most grants now probably would not be a problem.
- Rotary gives 1 year, suggestion is we follow suit.
- CSEF agreed to give a year to all grants granted, Audrey Debri will include this in her letter to the recipients of this round of grants.
- The purchases will be made through the buildings and then sent to Natalie to invoice the foundation'

4. Amount we would like to donate. We decided to donate \$20,000.00 this round.

Grant discussions, some, but not all highlights.

4 yeses were entered on the Sadie Gallagher 395.91

Reading Rocks is yes, 348.00 Heather Phillips

Little Free Library \$250.00 John Willette

Magnifiers for Karen Tackmann was approved.

?? on the ELMO tablet Karen Tackman

Aux Playspace - Trails separate play space for a small learning space to go rather than going outside when other students in first grade is outside.

GATORS Books- no, books in the classroom rather than sending home.

Alvarez iPad class – 2913.41 problem would be the iPads are only for one class. Shelley said she would accept any amount. A concern was expressed that perhaps we should consider not approving a grant for 1000 to a single classroom if we could benefit everyone rather than one classroom. Part of the discussion included the fact we did not have a classroom limit listed on our grant application, there may be a classroom project that would cost more than say, \$500, that would be a worthy project. Perhaps the merit of the grant should be our criteria rather than just the dollar amount of the grant. Perhaps we should consider the merit of a request rather than just the dollar amount. Shelley's experience would cause a ripple effect with her students far beyond the classroom. Most trustees were in favor of granting some amount to this grant proposal. The membership decided to table this until all other grants were decided and then perhaps award the balance to this grant. In the end Alvarez was granted \$ 1718.00 for her project.

Cedar View 21 st. Century Lab \$922. Yes

Andrea Nista – knows these kiddos need to be in school and do not have the funds to attend. 960.00 per student for 5 students. Students in poverty may have attendance issues, We would in effect be

subsiding the families rather than providing the funds to schools for students use. No- If we don't fund, she has other avenues for funding available.

Sensory equipment for Red Hawk. \$500.00 equipment for the special education students' use. Yes

Laminator for Red Hawk – no at this time.

Standing Tables – They can raise the tables to the level of the current tables for students to stand. While they don't have the movement of the specialty tables, it does allow students to move. The yoga balls are very distracting in the classroom. Perhaps give each one a \$1000 to start, OR have them try with the equipment you have and then return to us with a request. In the end, decided to ask them to use what they have available and then present with possible data surrounding their classroom. Finally, a vote of no for this grant.

Okay to say - 3 no and one no with questions. Decision was a no as this program is outside the parameters of our mission.

\$10,000 for Beach Elementary for chrome books and a cart. There was some confusion as to whether or not this was for the two classrooms of the teacher who wrote the grant or for the entire building. The grant was not clear, it was explained by Robin DeLine, secretary for Beach that the chrome books were indeed for the entire student population of Beach. The vote then was a yes to approve.

ELMO Tablet a yes for Tackmann

The decision was made to give away \$20,000.00 this round.

Money we had available:

Agency fund is \$36,000.00, Donor fund is 1\$4,000.00, that gives us \$50,000.00 spending money.

Chad Wight noted the Agency fund at a loss of 18000.00 due to the market and the Donor fund down \$5,300.00. January is worst time for the market.

However, we still have money available. We will need to be mindful of spending in the fall. We have cash building up in the fund. Chad's recommendation is to wait until fall to tap into the fund. Markets may settle after the election.

We have 28000.00 in the checking so, funding the grants is not problematic. Whether we use money from the Grand Rapids fund or some from ours, we have funds available. We have a \$6000.00 check from Wolverine World Wide and are now receiving \$161.50 per CSPA pay period (every 2 weeks) from CSPA employees.

Ask Donna Frank to submit a letter saying where she would like her money to go, no longer going to the RHE library. Robin DeLine will discuss this with Donna Frank and see what she would like to do with her donation

Checking on the DeVreugd scholarship continuing now that Russ is gone. Bryan Kahler will check on it later. Thoughts are the family will continue the scholarship. We have 2300.00 in memorials in the fund. Brian supplied the children's names and contact information to the secretary to be included in the address book.

Joel Stone scholarship in sports was normally handled through the AD office. Joel Stone was a Cross Country athlete in Cedar and his friends have a fundraiser and established a scholarship to a HS student every year. They met with the AD to determine who would receive the scholarship.

Bryan handles the Dr. Chuck scholarship and is offering to take on the Joel Stone scholarship as well. Brian is the person who distributes the forms for scholarships. Brian will now be the point person for the Joel Stone scholarship moving forward.

Date for the Brewery fundraiser. Chad Wight is not available on our original date. We are postponing the fundraiser in the spring and moving it to the fall due to time constraints. Community Night is April 21 and the CESF will have a presence there. Most in favor or moving the date.

Chad is meeting with someone from Rockford foundation to discuss ideas the CSEF could use in it's organization.

Display Pak is moving to Cedar, we will to contact them to give them information on Ed Foundation.

In the past done gift cards to teachers for teachers are we not giving them gift cards. Jeni will give them a note with a 100,000 candy bar.

Chad motion to spend 500 To give the teachers a note with a candy bar perhaps rather than spending so much on gift card to a book store.

Robin DeLine presented the new Annual Report book, brochure and address book created. Copies were given to trustees. Initial reaction was favorable to the materials. Robin asked for trustees to review the materials and get back to her with any changes they may like to see. Some edits were discussed along with the type and weight of the paper we have available. We also need to decide how many books we would need printed so we could get a quote on the print job.

Shannon seconded, the motion carried.

Shannon motioned we approve \$20,000.00 for grant request, Tom Noreen seconded, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM. Our next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday, May 6, 2016 at 7:00 in conference room C located in CSPS District Office.

Respectively submitted,

Robin DeLine,

Secretary

Please Note: I am including pictures of our white board listing of all our approved grants. I thought it would be a good idea to have it shown in our official minutes.

