

Williston-Elko Business, Education, Community Partnership

August 11, 2014

Minutes

Present were the following:

Mr. Bob Bruns

Ms. Anna Johnson

Mr. Dwayne Cagle

Rev. Jamie Wooten

Dr. Tom Siler

Ms. Nakeisha Baxley

Ms. Felicia Cuthbertson

Mr. Greg Sweet

Welcome: The August 11, 2014 meeting was called to order by Bob Bruns, Chair. The June 9, 2014 minutes were approved.

Continuing Business: Mr. Sweet gave the update on the Middle School mentoring program. A new teacher Dr. Eric Robertson, 7th grade Math teacher, will be partnering with Ms. Wright to support the Mentoring Program. They are expecting the mentoring to begin as soon as the school year begins with the first group of mentors who were trained in the Spring. Ms. Cuthbertson said that both she and her husband have made contact with their mentee and are ready to begin the year. Mr. Sweet expressed his desire to see the program succeed at the Middle School and grow to all the schools within the district. .

Expense Approval: The monthly financial report was distributed and reviewed. Mr. Bruns brought recommendation for funding four STEM field trips for the upcoming school year. Mr. Sweet recommended that the faculty and administration review these requests prior to an action by the BEC. It was recommended to hold this funding request until the September meeting. A vote was held and was unanimously agreed to hold until the next meeting. Dr. Siler indicated that the new high school principal, Mr. Joel Mitchell will be joining us at the next meeting.

New Business:

Sponsorship/Future Strategies: Mr. Bruns brought forward a discussion on establishing corporate sponsorship. In order to be a sustainable organization, we have to establish a means for income. Corporate sponsorship is a viable option. As the BEC, we have to identify what we have to offer the community to make a partnership attractive to businesses. Further discussion on this topic will be held in the next meeting.

Community Coalition: Ms. Cuthbertson briefed the group on a new initiative within the Williston community. The “Community Coalition” was created in response to recent events to establish a forum for intervention and establishing solutions to race relations. The Coalition had its first event on August 10, 2014 as a “Back to School Bash”. The event brought together the faith community, public service, local government, and the community in general. The event was well attended and the donations were substantial. The Coalition has four subcommittees: 1) Faith; 2) Justice and Social Equality; 3) Community Outreach; and 4) Marketing Outreach. The Coalition is partnering with BEC and utilizing BEC as an outlet for channeling funds.

Meeting Attendance: Dr. Siler recommended that we offer a conference call option to open the opportunity for attendance to those who cannot physically make it to the meeting at the school. Mr. Sweet will take the lead in having a phone available and a conference call number set up for the September meeting.

T-Shirts: Ms. Cuthbertson proposed that we make BEC T-shirts available. She will discuss at the next meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8, 2014 at 4:00pm.

Prepared by Anna Johnson