

**Metropolitan Education Commission
Executive Board Meeting
MEC Office, 930 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.
Wednesday, August 5, 2015, 7:30 a.m.**

MINUTES

Attendance: Members present: Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Dr. Kasey Urquidez, Bill Ardern, Pat Wiedhopf, George Favela
Members absent: Dr. Louis Albert, Paul Lovelis
Non-members present: Edward Nossem

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m.

2.0 ROLL CALL – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was recited by all attendees.

4.0 APPROVAL OF JULY 2, 2015 MEETING MINUTES – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

Motion to approve: Bill Ardern

Second: Pat Wiedhopf

Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 MEC FUNDRAISING – DR. JUNE WEBB-VIGNERY

The MEC Budget for 2015-2016 was distributed and discussed. At the MEC Annual Retreat Commissioners will begin development of an RCAC sustainability plan. MEC fundraising is part of our City metrics; this will be discussed at the MEC Retreat. Dr. Webb-Vignery will suggest a letter that Commissioners can send out to potential funders.

6.0 MEC RETREAT – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

The MEC Retreat will take place Saturday, August 8th, 2015 at the UA Student Union Catalina Room. The Education Funding Panel will feature Richard Elias, Pima County Supervisor, District 5; Jason Freed, President, Tucson Education Association (Representing the Arizona Education Association); Dana Wolfe Naimark, Children's Action Alliance; and Dr. John Pedicone, Southern Arizona Leadership Council, and moderated by MEC Commissioner Jen Darland. The Education Funding Breakout Session will consist of 2 parts: MEC Fundraising, chaired by Jo Riester; and Formation of Strategic Planning/Advocacy, Chaired by Jen Darland. The RCAC Breakout Session will be chaired by Pat Wiedhopf, and the focus will be on development of a sustainability plan.. The YAC/TTC Breakout Session will be chaired by Paul Lovelis; in addition to YAC/TTC members attending, two School District student representatives each from Amphitheater, Catalina Foothills, Flowing Wells, Marana, Tucson, Sunnyside, and Vail districts will attend and take part in the Breakout Session and report back to their Superintendents. We will invite these students to join the YAC/TTC.

7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

No report.

7.2 Budget - Bill Ardern

The Pima County MEC and RCAC contracts have been received. Bill Ardern will report on the budget at the Retreat.

7.3 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

We have reserved Friday, April 29, 2016 with the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel for the 26th Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon. This was done so that we can get a larger number of YAC/TTC members to attend the event, since AP testing takes place the first week of May 2016. The Desert Diamond Contract/Catering Agreement has been signed; no deposit was required.

7.4 Issues – Pat Wiedhopf

Dr. Webb-Vignery and Jen Darland met with Supervisor Ray Carroll's assistant Jennifer Wong to discuss the MEC Resolution Regarding the Arizona State Fiscal Year 2016 Funding for Education (K-20) and will be meeting with Supervisor Ramon Valadez in this regard as well. The Resolution will be placed on both the Pima County Board of Supervisors (August 17th) and Tucson Mayor & Council (September 9th) agendas. The League of Arizona Cities & Towns will use this Resolution as a model of what a city / town can do to address the issue.

Members of the MEC Executive Board met with the new City Manager, Michael Ortega; we will invite him to attend the September 16th MEC meeting. We will also receive updates on U of A and Pima Community College enrollments at the September meeting.

7.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez (not in attendance)

We have submitted a Proposal for the Helios Education Foundation's College Knowing & Going funding, in collaboration with AzCAN. They will be notifying us by August 7th. The AmeriCorps State grant has been approved by the AZ Governor's Office and awaits final approval from the federal AmeriCorps office., and will provide for 24 Student Ambassadors to 8 area high schools in 3 school districts.

7.6 Appointments –

Sun Corridor (formerly TREO) has submitted Guillermo Figueroa, CenturyLink, to represent the business community. He will be voted on at the Retreat. Dr. Kasey Urquidez has recommended Rafael Meza to represent Private/Accredited Schools. Maggie Zheng has agreed to fill the Youth Commissioner spot pending election to the position by the YAC/TTC at their September 2nd meeting. Aaron Myers, representing Libraries/Museums/Arts, has resigned and we are awaiting his recommendation for a replacement. We still need a Religious Community appointment.

Election of MEC Board Officers –Dr. Louis Albert met with Javier Herrera, and Jen Darland to discuss the 2015-2016 Executive Board slate; the proposed slate are: Chair- Pat Wiedhopf; Vice-Chair – George Favela; Secretary – Paul Lovelis; Treasurer – Bill Ardern; Past Chair – Dr. Kasey Urquidez; Appointments – Deborah Embry. The slate will be presented at the MEC Retreat, voted on at the

September 16th meeting, and the new Board will assume its duties starting October 1, 2015.

Dr. Louis Albert will continue to represent Pima Community College until the Chancellor recommends a replacement.

7.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis

Current YAC/TTC President Maggie Zheng has agreed to fill in as Interim Youth Commissioner until the YAC/TTC can hold an election on the matter. New YAC/TTC officers (President, Secretary, and Corresponding Secretary) will be solicited at the September 2nd meeting, and elected at the September 16, 2015 meeting. Vice Chair Diego Martinez Barrera and Treasurer David Ojeda will continue in office if they so choose.

7.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem

We have secured the UA Student Union for Wednesday, February 3, 2016 for the 2016 K2E event. We will contact the YAC/TTC regarding exhibitors that would be of interest to youth. A meeting to discuss the AZ Telemedicine initiative to remote telecast workshops to rural Arizona is pending.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT – DR. KASEY URQUIDEZ

Motion to Adjourn: Bill Ardern

Second: Pat Wiedhopf

Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.