

**Metropolitan Education Commission
Executive Board Meeting
MEC Office, 930 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ.
Thursday, March 3, 2016, 7:30 a.m.**

MINUTES

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

1.0 CALL TO ORDER – PAT WIEDHOPF

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

2.0 ROLL CALL – PAT WIEDHOPF

Roll call was conducted; a quorum was established.

3.0 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – PAT WIEDHOPF

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

4.0 APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Paul Lovelis

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 APPROVAL OF MARCH 16, 2016 MEC REGULAR MEETING AGENDA – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to Approve: Paul Lovelis

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion approved unanimously.

6.0 MEC CAPITAL PROGRAM – DR. JUNE WEBB-VIGNERY

No action.

7.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

With MEC collaborations, we need to make sure that the MEC is given credit for its work on college access and success, which has sometimes not been happening, and also make sure that information regarding college access, FAFSA completion numbers, and other data, is accurate. Some data is fluid and changing, so accuracy is important – for example, submitting a FAFSA is not the same as FAFSA completion. Also, most non-profits with federal grants collect data on ethnicity, but we do not. David said that there are similar questions on the Student Ambassador applications, but not other paperwork. The YAC/TTC application and K2E evaluations have optional ethnicity questions.

7.2 Budget - Bill Ardern

No new report; the budget is tracking appropriately.

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. We have 17 tables at present.

The 2006 CAA Lifetime Achievement Honoree is Dr. John Pedicone. The 2016 Education Advocacy Award Honoree is General Ron Shoopman of the Southern Arizona Leadership Council. The Teacher Honoree is Jennifer Anglin, Flowing Wells Junior High School, Flowing Wells USD; and the Counselor Honoree is Judy Bowers. The Youth Honoree is Nayra Ochoa, Rincon High School and Upward Bound, TUSD. The Corporate Award will be presented to Cox Communications for their many years of service to education. The Small Business Award be given to the Robert Elliott Accounting Group for their scholarship activities. Elected officials are being contacted for presenting the Crystal Apple trophies at the event. The only honoree who will speak at the 2016 event will be the Lifetime Achievement Honoree, in order to save time.

The Outstanding Teen Citizens and Poster Contest winners have been selected by the YAC/TTC Committees, and they are being notified.

7.4 Issues – George Favela

No issues.

7.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez

The Southern Arizona press conference/Kickoff announcing the Helios Education Foundation statewide College Knowing & Going initiative will take place on April 14th, 2016 at Catalina High School Auditorium, at 9:30 a.m. Invitations will sent via email from both the Helios Foundation and the MEC. The Mayor and Richard Elias have agreed to attend and speak.

Dr. Webb-Vignery and Linda Jensen (Helios) met with Richard Fimbres to discuss possible funding for enhanced student tracking through LULAC.

7.6 Appointments – No action.

7.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis

The Civic Engagement Day on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 was a success. 27 students from 6 area school districts (Amphitheater, Catalina Foothills, Flowing Wells, Sunnyside, Tucson, and Vail) attended. The group consisted of the MEC's Youth Advisory Council/Tucson Teen Congress (YAC/TTC) members, as well as student representatives from schools that had attended the Teen Town Hall. 6 adult chaperones accompanied the students on the trip and provided assistance.

High schools represented included Andrada Polytechnic, Catalina Foothills, Catalina Magnet, Cholla, Desert View, Flowing Wells, JTED, Rincon, Salpointe Catholic, Sunnyside, University, and Vail Academy High Schools.

The main points of discussion regarding these issues involved tax cuts vs. tax increases for increased school funding; the loss of accredited teachers; and the lack of adequate technology and infrastructures in our public schools.

7.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Ed Nossem

Paul Lovelis asked that we secure the 2017 date as soon as possible so that we can solicit a Samsung sponsorship for event expenses. The 2017 K2E will take place on Wednesday, February 8, 2017.

8.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Paul Lovelis

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.