

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

MINUTES

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

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 JUNE 2, 2016 MEETING MINUTES – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Deborah Embry

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 MEC COMMITTEE AFTER PROPOSITION 123 VOTE – PAT WIEDHOPF

The Proposition 123 Subcommittee meeting has been postponed; although the Proposition was passed by Arizona voters, there are still two outstanding issues: there has been a lawsuit filed against it, and also there has been a committee formed by the Arizona State Treasurer to address the State Land Trust funding aspect. Additionally, the issue of amending the Arizona State Constitution regarding use of State Land Trust funds may have to be addressed by the U.S. Congress. Disbursement of the funds has commenced. Debbi Embry stated that Betty Liggins and Chuck Ford were going to craft a response to ensure that future funds will be directed to the right places. The Children's Action Alliance has also addressed the issue.

Proposition 123 will be discussed at the MEC Retreat by the School Superintendents' panel, and in the MEC State Education Funding breakout session.

6.0 MEC RETREAT – PAT WIEDHOPF

The MEC Retreat will take place on SATURDAY, AUGUST 6, 2016 at the University of Arizona Student Union Tucson/Catalina Rooms, from 7:45 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We have invited the School District Superintendents that are part of the Helios Education Foundation's College Knowing and Going Initiative Southern Arizona component to sit on a panel to discuss the initiative and its impact. Questions for the panel have been

formulated by Linda Jensen of College Success Arizona; an additional question regarding tracking of ACT testing by ethnicity was suggested by Debbi Embry. Mayor Rothschild, Pima County Supervisor Richard Elías, and U of A Provost Dr. Andrew Confrey will attend, and Pima County Supervisor Sharon Bronson and City Council Member Regina Romero have been invited to attend. Members of the YAC/TTC will be in attendance, and we are once again requesting that 2 students from each of the Pima County school districts attend to represent those districts. Emails are being sent to Commissioners requesting that they choose a Breakout Committee, which will also be their assigned committee for the year. Jen Darland will Chair the Education Funding Breakout; Pat Wiedhopf will Chair the RCAC Breakout, and Paul Lovelis will chair the YAC/TTC Breakout. MEC Commissioners will be asked to contribute to the discussions in regard to their respective constituencies. MEC Commissioners will be asked to state their name and the constituency that they represent at the Retreat start; the list of MEC Constituencies will be part of the retreat materials.

7.0 COOPER CENTER PROPOSAL – PAT WIEDHOPF

Tucson Unified School District has contacted the MEC to be the Fiscal Agent for an Angel Charities grant to support the expansion/renovation of the University of Arizona's Cooper Environmental Center, and a budget has been drawn up that covers the MEC's administrative overhead. The MEC Executive Director would oversee the project. The MEC could benefit through the YAC/TTC's involvement with Cooper Center activities. There is a 10-year Deed of Trust which TUSD will sign. A contract has been drafted, which the MEC Executive Board discussed; one provision regarding Angel Charities restrictions on other MEC fundraising needs to be resolved, as the Board has agreed that we should not sign the contract if this stipulation interferes with MEC fundraising.

8.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

8.1 Collaborations – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

Dr. Webb-Vignery and Ed Nossem attended a Pima County programs training on June 29th; they are raising the accountability standards and asking for additional inclusion of documentation, such as time sheets reflecting accurate time spent specifically on Pima County-funded activities.

The Tucson Festival of Books has requested an MEC representative for their Teen Committee; Paul Lovelis has agreed to attend their August 18th meeting at Make Way for Books.

The Community Schools Alliance AmeriCorps grant is entering its second year; they want to apply for a new grant and Dr. Webb-Vignery has volunteered to sit on the grant-writing committee. She also suggested adding middle schools to this grant.

There was discussion regarding the planned joint MEC/League of Women Voters Pima County School Superintendent Candidates Forum;

8.2 Budget - Bill Ardern

The budget is tracking appropriately. We are awaiting word on the federal Talent Search Grant, and will see how the outcome of the Angel Charities proposal goes.

Regarding the MEC office space, there is an offer to co-occupy space at 160 N. Stone Avenue with the Tucson Teen Court; the Tucson Indian Center has

purchased the building. However it is also important that the City remains the provider of MEC office space, for funding continuity purposes. For the City's 2711 E. Broadway site, we will obtain information on cooling and heating costs.

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

We have reserved Friday, April 28, 2017 at the Desert Diamond Casino & Hotel for next year's event, and the catering contract has been signed. The Lifetime Achievement Committee will meet on August 24th to select the 2017 Honoree.

8.4 Issues – George Favela

No action (George Favela not present).

8.5 RCAC – David Rodriguez

MEC Financial Assistant Felicia Ramirez will be assisting David Rodriguez with the Summer Melt Program, and with communications with the Vail school district schools.

8.6 Appointments – Deborah Embry

The Commission's Sun Corridor representative Guillermo Figueroa has resigned; we have been contacted by Laura Shaw at Sun Corridor for information on the requirements for the position.

The Arizona Education Association has appointed Jessica Kull to replace Jennifer Flores representing Teachers Grades 5-9, and will be receiving orientation before the MEC Retreat.

8.7 YAC/TTC – Paul Lovelis

Paul Lovelis & Ed Nossem have constructed the 2015-2016 meeting template, and discussed with Dr. Webb-Vignery. We plan to engage more fully on local education and youth issues through interaction with the Tucson Mayor & Council and Pima County Board of Supervisors meetings. In this regard Dr. Webb-Vignery has contacted UA Doctoral Student Michelle Aguilera to assist us in keeping track of the City & County meeting agendas. She is under a limited contract to do so, and will report to the Executive Board. The Executive Board has approved the recruitment of new members via email, which will be sent out to the schools once classes have commenced.

7.8 Key to Employment Symposium – Dr. June Webb-Vignery

The 2017 K2E will take place on Wednesday, February 8, 2017 at the UA Student Union. MEC staff met with K2E Coordinator Johanna Duffek on 7/06/16 to begin the planning process.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT – PAT WIEDHOPF

Motion to approve: Paul Lovelis

Second: Bill Ardern

Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.