



**MINUTES – MEC REGULAR MEETING
4:05 P.M. – 5:30 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2008
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Ashley Applebee, Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Dr. Robert Breault, Mark DeWeerd, Tom Ellis, George Favela, Cathy Hunt, Jayme Jacobs (Dr. Linda Arzoumanian), Rebecca Kopec, Lisa Long, Xavier Manrique, Raul Nido, Jo Riester, Sr. Rosa Maria Ruiz, Laura Shaw, Henrietta Shepard, Dr. Jay St. John, Molly Tylutki, Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf.

NON-COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Fran Embrey Senechal, Edward Nossem, Arlene Benavidez, Betty Kalil Knott, Jim Murphy.

PLEASE NOTE: DUE TO THE ABSENCE OF MEC CHAIR DR. LOUIS ALBERT, MEC VICE-CHAIR GEORGE FAVELA PRESIDED OVER THIS MEETING.

1.0 CALL TO ORDER –GEORGE FAVELA (for DR LOUIS ALBERT)

The meeting was called to order by George Favela at 4:05 p.m.

2.0 FINANCIAL REPORT – XAVIER MANRIQUE):

*The Financial Report for November 2007 was not given at the December Legislative Reception. The December 2007 Financial Report was delayed due to the U.S. Post Office having misdelivered the December 2007 financial records upon which the Report is based. Therefore, the Financial Report for the February 20, 2008 meeting will include these previous reports.

3.0 APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 14, 2007, MEETING MINUTES – GEORGE FAVELA

Motion to Approve the November 14, 2007 MEC Meeting Minutes: Dr. Jay St. John
Second: Xavier Manrique
The motion carried 19 to 0.

4.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 Budget – Dr. June Webb-Vignery (for Bill Ardern)

The budget is tracking appropriately for the year so far. The 2008-09 COT Budget application has been submitted, and the 2008-09 Pima County Budget application is in progress. We also have funding pending from the Community Foundation of Southern Arizona and the Gear Up program.

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

The Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon is scheduled for Wednesday, May 7, 2008, Doubletree Hotel. We have 15 sponsors at present. Once again, all Commissioners are asked to procure a table for the event; the MEC office will be sending out reminders. Two teachers have been selected for the Teacher Award (Krista Gypton, Empire High School, and Chuck Gallagher, Santa Rita High School). The Small Business & Corporate Award recipient is Freeport McMoRan, Inc. – Sierrita. Dr. Jay St. John gave a short presentation on their selection. The Youth Award nominee is pending.

4.3 Appointments – Pat Wiedhopf

We have 2 new Commission appointees: Laura Shaw, representing TREO, and Rebecca Kopec, representing the Youth Advisory Council/Tucson Teen Congress.

Motion to approve Laura Shaw appointment to the MEC: George Favela

Second: Dr. Jay St. John

The motion carried 19-0.

Motion to approve Rebecca Kopec appointment to the MEC: Dr. Kent Barrabee

Second: Tom Ellis

The motion carried 19-0.

4.4 YAC/TTC – Fran Embrey Senechal

The YAC/TTC has been focused on three items:

The Outstanding Teen Citizen Awards – the community has been notified; nominations are due at the end of February. The LULAC Career Fair is scheduled for March 18th, 2008, at Pima Community College West Campus. There are 2 YAC/TTC members on the Governor's Youth Commission.

4.5 Issues – George Favela

The Regional College Access Center press conference was a success, with 60 attendees. The State of the State Luncheon took place that afternoon; the Governor stressed the need for funding for education and access to college; she also endorsed a plan that would provide free tuition for in-state college students with a 'B' average or above.

5.5.1 Arlene Benavidez-RCAC:

The RCAC website address is www.metedu.org/rcac. The Art Center Design College has designed the RCAC flyer and website header.

Marketing is in progress. Dr. June Webb-Vignery has conducted interviews,

the Arizona Daily Star & Tucson Citizen have published articles and opinion pieces on the Center and the community's need and benefits to be derived from the Center. There will be community outreach in the Spring – The Sunnyside Literacy Town Hall, Counselors' Breakfast, Pan Asian Group outreach, etc. Jason Williams of The College Depot in Phoenix, attended the press conference and indicated that the College Depot will work together with the RCAC regarding state funding. MEC Commissioners are encouraged to spread the word about the RCAC, and we thank them for all of their work on this issue.

5.0 READING SEED PRESENTATION – BETTY KALIL KNOTT & JIM MURPHY

Ms. Kalil Knott & Mr. Murphy presented to the MEC on the Reading Seed program, its history and mission, and the need for support. Further information is available from the MEC office.

6.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No action.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn: Raul Nido

Second: Xavier Manrique

The motion carried 19 – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.