



**MINUTES – MEC REGULAR MEETING  
4:10 P.M. – 5:40 P.M., WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008  
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,  
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Dr. Louis Albert, Bill Ardern, Rhonda Ball, Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Betty Elasowich, Jayme Jacobs (for Dr. Linda Arzoumanian), Dr. Paul Kohn, Xavier Manrique, Betina Martinez, Jo Riestler, Sr. Rosa Maria Ruiz, Henrietta Shepard, Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf.

NON-COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Arlene Benavidez , Edward Nossem, Fran Embrey Senechal, Paul Lovelis, Matthew Kopec.

CALL TO ORDER – DR. LOUIS ALBERT

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Albert at 4:10 p.m.

1.0 FINANCIAL REPORT – XAVIER MANRIQUE:

April 2008:

ASSETS:

Current Assets:	\$183,949.00
Fixed Assets:	<u>2,314.84</u>
Total Assets:	186,263.84

LIABILITIES & EQUITY:

Current Liabilities:	\$ 14,940.10
Total Equity:	<u>171,323.74</u>
Total L & E:	186,263.84

Motion to approve April 2008 Financial Report:  
NO ACTION – will vote next MEC meeting.

2.0 APPROVAL OF APRIL 16, 2008 MEETING MINUTES – DR. LOUIS ALBERT

Motion to Approve the April 16, 2008 MEC Meeting Minutes:  
NO ACTION – will vote next MEC meeting

#### 4.0 MEC ANNUAL RETREAT - DR. JUNE WEBB-VIGNERY

The MEC Annual Retreat will take place on Saturday, August 9, 2008 at Pima Community College West Campus, 2202 W. Anklam Rd., 7:30a.m. to 12 noon. The focus will be the Regional College Access Center. We will set the course for the coming year at the Retreat, and choose committees for the breakout sessions (RCAC Publicity, Funding, Programs) as well as the committees for the 2008-2009 year. The MEC office will be emailing committee sign-up sheets for you to select from. Mayor Walkup and Chairman Richard Elias will be invited to speak.

#### 5.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### 5.1 Budget – Bill Ardern

The Budget is tracking appropriately for the year. The funding for the coming fiscal year looks good due to Mayor & Council and Pima County Board of Supervisors commitments to MEC and RCAC.

##### 5.2 Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon –Dr. June Webb-Vignery

The Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon took place on Wednesday, May 7, 2008. There were approximately 500 attendees. There was no banner sponsor this year, so we had less gross income - @\$13,500 after expenses. The Crystal Apple Committee has suggested that we solicit bids from the Tucson Convention Center as well as the Doubletree Hotel for the 2009 CAA.

Commissioners commented that the speeches given by awardees were inspiring and moving, and demonstrate once again the value of the Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon in bringing the community together to honor youth, educators and their supporters.

##### 5.3 Appointments – Pat Wiedhopf

Dr. Paul Kohn, has been selected by the University of Arizona to replace Dr. Toni Griego-Jones as MEC Commissioner. Dr. Kohn is U/A Vice Provost, Enrollment and Dean of Admissions. Dr. Kohn gave a short introduction of himself to the Commission.

Motion to Approve:

NO ACTION – will vote next MEC meeting.

##### 5.4 YAC/TTC – Fran Embrey Senechal

The YAC/TTC is winding down for the year. The MEC office will email the Teen Town Hall minutes to Commissioners. The Library is looking for people to join the Friends of the Pima County Library, the website with info will be emailed to Commissioners.

##### 5.5 Issues – George Favela

###### 5.5.1 Arlene Benavidez-RCAC:

Dr. June Webb-Vignery and Arlene Benavidez have been invited to present on the RCAC at the 2008 National College Access Network Conference in Houston, Texas September 21-24.

Dr. Webb-Vignery, Fran Embrey Senechal, and Arlene Benavidez travelled to Sells, AZ once again, to meet with the Tohono O'odham Nation Legislative Council. Outreach to the Tohono O'odham Nation will be ongoing.

Email updates to providers: Website Training – 136 people; 25 trainer volunteers for fall 2008. A report on website usage from Jan 16 – April 30, 2008 numbers summary was also sent. The website now has a “Submit Event” feature.

College and Career Inventories have gone out requesting fall '08 information.

There is also a website link/icon to connect to school/organization websites.

The College Toolkit Counselor Account Focus Group next meeting will be on May 29, 2008. We met with Mark Rothbaum, President, College Toolkit via teleconference and had a remote computer access demonstration with high school counselors and college recruiters. George Favela is the Advisory Group Chair; we had four meetings in spring, the attendance was good, and we established mission and goals for the group. The last meeting was with Richard Elias & Anne Marie Medina.

The Scholarship Sub-committee to explore idea of a centralized application process involving community-based or private donor scholarships; June 12 first meeting.

We need Marketing Focus Group volunteers to make recommendations for the MEC retreat. Evaluation of the RCAC – an Executive Summary will be prepared by late June 2008, and will be reviewed at the MEC Retreat.

Marketing: Spring 2008 – Focused on providers, setting foundation for support through communication, collaboration, and website training.

A video was created by International Media regarding the impact the RCAC's impact on the community as well as on one family, which was presented at the Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon and will be used for other presentations.

Fall 2008 – Focus on students and parents

Marketing #1 Goal for summer to be ready by first week on August:

- i. Exploring assistance by marketing expert from Ideas @ Work
- ii. Focus Group – Advisory Group members, MEC Commissioners invited
- iii. YAC/TTC Summer Project – exploring a video idea, Valerie Cavazos (Aim 4 College ) or Nancy Montoya to help
- iv. Implementation Action items on Marketing Plan and Timeline created with input given by commissioners during March meeting.

## 6.0 ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS MEC RESOLUTION - DR. KENT BARRABEE

Dr. Barrabee recapped the ELL Resolution and the reasons for the need for it to be acted on by the Legislature. Schools and educators are under great stress under the present circumstances, due to the clearly inadequate funding and also the distribution of these funds as allocated, making it very hard for us to be effective supporters of education in our community.

Dr. Webb-Vignery indicated that Councilmember Steve Leal has asked that the MEC Resolution be put on the Mayor & Council Agenda at the earliest possible time. There appears to be the votes on the Council to approve the Resolution. Once approved it should be passed on to the state legislative liaison for consideration by the Legislature.

Dr. Albert reiterated that the primary purpose of the MEC is to make policy recommendations to the Pima County Board of Supervisors and Tucson Mayor &

Council, so when we take a position as we did on this or other issues, we are fulfilling our mission.

7.0 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL FAIR FOR EDUCATORS – JAYMIE JACOBS

Jaymie Jacobs of the Pima County Superintendent of Schools office presented on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Fair for Educators which will take place on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde Rd. There are 89 exhibitors registered, as well as 286 educators. The MEC is acting as the fiduciary pass-through for Corporate Sponsorships, and will have an information table at the event. In addition, Arlene Benavidez will also have an information table for the Regional College Access Center, and will conduct a breakout session, “College Resources for Educators!” at 1:30pm in the Barcelona Room. All Commissioners are urged to attend this event.

80. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No action.

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.