



**MINUTES – MEC REGULAR MEETING  
4:05 P.M. – 5:45 P.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2009  
PIMA COUNTY LIBRARY LOWER LEVEL MEETING ROOM,  
101 N. STONE AVE., TUCSON, ARIZONA**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Dr. Louis Albert, Ashley Applebee, Bill Ardern, Rhonda Ball, Malena Barajas, Dr. Kent Paul Barrabee, Mark DeWeerd, Tom Ellis, George Favela, Connie Greenberg, Maria Hooker, Dr. Paul Kohn, Rebecca Kopec, Lisa Long, Jo Riestler, Sr. Rosa Maria Ruiz, Dr. Jay St. John, Molly Tylutki, Dr. June Webb-Vignery, Pat Wiedhopf.

**NON-COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Fran Embrey Senechal, Edward Nossem, Karla Garcia, Matthew Kopec, Paul Lovelis, Dr. Bob Breault, Joshua Enos.

1.0 **CALL TO ORDER – DR. LOUIS ALBERT**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Albert at 4:05 p.m.

2.0 **FINANCIAL REPORT – DR. LOUIS ALBERT:**

**November 2008:**

**ASSETS:**

Current Assets:	\$138,031.34
Fixed Assets:	<u>2,314.84</u>
Total Assets:	140,346.18

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY:**

Current Liabilities:	\$ 14,983.19
Total Equity:	<u>125,382.99</u>
Total L & E:	140,346.18

Motion to approve November 2008 Financial Report: George Favela

Second: Dr. Jay St. John

Motion carried 19 to 0.

**December 2008:**

**ASSETS:**

Current Assets:	\$131,880.42
Fixed Assets:	<u>2,314.84</u>
Total Assets:	134,195.26

LIABILITIES & EQUITY:

Current Liabilities: \$ 14,739.49

Total Equity: 119,455.77

Total L & E: 134,195.26

Motion to approve December 2008 Financial Report: George Favela

Second: Tom Ellis

Motion carried 19 to 0.

3.0 APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 19, 2008 MEETING MINUTES – DR. LOUIS ALBERT

Motion to Approve the November 19, 2008 MEC Meeting Minutes: George Favela

Second: Rhonda Ball

Motion carried 19 to 0.

4.0 REGIONAL COLLEGE ACCESS CENTER –  
GEORGE FAVELA & KARLA GARCIA

Arlene Benavidez has gone on to work at the University of Arizona. Karla Garcia, UA graduate student in Advising, has replaced her. (Karla was welcomed and gave a short personal history).

Karla trained the Sunnyside High School JAG (Jobs for Arizona Graduates) program students on the RCAC website on January 20th. The JAG students will do a weeklong seminar on the use of the website. The website to date has 1,165 student accounts and 219 school counselor accounts. TUSD and Amphi School Districts have RCAC links on their websites. The RCAC Advisory Group met last Thursday and discussed funding, evaluation, and the Paying For College Forum held in November 2008. The Evaluation Committee, chaired by Bill Ardern, discussed ways to interface more broadly with the community. The UA and CFSA will put the question, “Do you use the RCAC Website” on their financial aid applications. Also, TUSD will push its use in all TUSD schools. Ann Huber will assist in tracking numbers. Dr. Albert stated that anecdotes are more important than numbers - how the RCAC is helping people, and that we should look for and capture these for our use. George Favela pointed out the disconnection between availability and information. Dr. Barrabee will look into sharing the website with the Arizona School Boards Association.

5.0 COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Budget – Bill Ardern

We have two grant applications outstanding – Angel Charity (\$60,000) and the Federal Challenge Grant (\$50,000). We also have applied for an earmark from Congressman Grijalva - \$300,000 for expanding the RCAC into a regional entity. The City of Tucson and Pima County charters/Resolutions establishing the MEC will be defended regarding budget cuts; the budget sections require equal funding from the City & County. We need to follow up with visits to City & County officials, and point out the large return on their small investment in the MEC.

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

The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Crystal Apple Awards Luncheon will take place on Wednesday, May 6, 2009. The venue this year will be the Tucson Convention Center. We have 15 tables committed at present. All monies raised will go for the RCAC. We have chosen the Lifetime Achievement, Teacher, and Special Awardees; Corporate, Youth, and School Counselor Awardees are pending. The YAC/TTC will select the Counselor; Fran has amended the nomination forms, deleting the school names etc. for fairness in the selection process. The Community Foundation of Southern Arizona (CFSA) may attach a scholarship to the Youth Award. The Outstanding Teen Citizen and Poster Contest winners are pending.

5.3 Appointments – Dr. June Webb-Vignery (for Pat Wiedhopf)

The Nominating Committee for MEC Executive Committee are Raul Nido, **Pat Wiedhopf, and Dr. Jay St. John**. They will meet in February, and the MEC will vote on the nominees in March. Recent resignations are Betina Martinez, Rebecca Melland, and Cathy Hunt; Rabbi Cohon was removed. Connie Greenberg was nominated to replace Ned Norris, Jr., representing Minority Groups/Native American Community.

Motion to approve Connie Greenberg to the MEC: Dr. Kent Barrabee

Second: Malena Barajas

Motion carried 19 to 0.

Motion to reappoint Maria Hooker, George Favela, and Dr. Paul Kohn:

Tom Ellis

Second: Dr. Kent Barrabee

Motion carried 19 to 0.

5.4 YAC/TTC – Fran Embrey Senechal

The YAC/TTC has selected Matt Kopec as President; there was a tie for Vice-President, and the group will vote again. Secretary – Emily Ortiz; Treasurer – Fernando Loya. Meetings with the Mayor, Councilmembers Glassman, Leal, and Supervisor Scott are set; others are pending. We encourage Commissioners to attend with the youth.

The LULAC Youth Leadership Conference will take place on March 16 & 17, 2009, sat PCC West Campus.

5.5 Issues – Dr. June Webb-Vignery (for George Favela)

A lengthy discussion about the current funding and fiscal crisis, and options/solutions, was held.

6.0 CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No action.

7.0 ADJOURNMENT

Motion to Adjourn: Mark DeWeerd

Second: Dr. Jay St. John

The motion passed 19-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.