



**Newaygo County Area Promise Zone Authority Board Meeting**  
Tuesday, November 13, 2018  
NC RESA Educational Services Center Board Room

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Present: Dawn Anderson, Tom Boerger, Woody Bowman, Lori Tubbergen Clark, Jack Hendon, Holly Moon, Cathy Obits, Carla Roberts, Scott Rumsey, Rebecca Tuuk, Don VanSingel, Steve Witter

Absent: None

Visitors: Melissa Miller, Emily Truax (Recorder), Jody Zerlaut

Chairperson Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m.

**Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion by Moon, supported by Rumsey, to approve the agenda. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Correspondence:**

Letter of resignation from Mr. Forrest (Woody) Bowman – The board congratulated Mr. Bowman on his impending retirement and thanked him for his valuable service. The Operations Committee will seek another representative from the White Cloud area.

**Approval of the August 14, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Rumsey, supported by Hendon, to approve the August 14, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Public Participation:**

Dr. Tubbergen Clark asked if there were any citizens who wished to address the board. There were none.

**Information and Discussion Items:**

**Chairperson Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark, presented the following report:**

Michigan Promise Zone Association – Since our last meeting both Carla Roberts and Dr. Clark attended the Michigan Promise Zone Association meetings. The technical assistance conference will be held later this month focusing on marketing, communication and fundraising. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

Report from Hope College – A group of students at Hope College are taking a deep look at each Promise Zone within Michigan and conducting a national research scan. The NCAPZ has asked the Hope College team to provide us with an extensive report, at a cost of \$3,000, which was paid for in part by a grant from the Gerber Foundation and the balance by NC RESA.

**Mr. Steve Witter, Chair of the Finance Subcommittee, presented the following report:**

Financial Update – Mr. Witter noted an increase of \$1,000 since the August meeting, and therefore still need approx. \$100,000 in additional funds to meet the \$1.5 mil goal. He continues to seek a contact from Meijer.

Paypal Account – A Paypal account will be created to allow for online donations, which will also be helpful for Giving Tuesday. Mr. Witter echoed Mrs. Moon’s statement that a staff person is needed sooner rather than later as committee work is gradually increasing.

Staff School Campaigns – A few giveaways prompted increased donor support from NC RESA staff. Each district also received a gift card to raffle off, which contributed to now having at least one donor from every local district. Overall, payroll deduction has increased by 60% from last year. Mrs. Tuuk urged board members to continue to talk about the Promise Zone to others in the community, adding that the schools which gave the most are those that have people in lead positions within the Promise Zone and have created excitement within their own networks.

Star Student – Mr. Witter proposed that NCAPZ identify a star student in May when the first cohort graduates to create a more personal message for marketing.

Fundraising Committee – The Fundraising Subcommittee has lost many of its members and is in need of additional volunteers. Mr. Witter mentioned a possible collaboration with the marketing committee.

**Mrs. Holly Moon, Co-chair of the Marketing Subcommittee, presented the following report:**

Joint We CAN/NCAPZ Meeting – With the great help of Melissa Miller, a joint WE CAN/NCAPZ marketing meeting has been scheduled for November 19. The team hopes to identify what budget supports we can receive from We CAN.

Newaygo County College and Career Night Out & Newaygo Parent Night Out – Both events were successful, and Mrs. Moon added much of that was from the coordination from the college advisors. Roughly 30 families attended the Newaygo Parent's Night Out.

Facebook Page – Mrs. Moon asked the board to continually send her information that can be shared to the Facebook page.

**Mrs. Rebecca Tuuk, Chairperson of the Promise Success Initiative Subcommittee Report, presented the following report:**

Hope College Promise Zone Project – An initial presentation from Hope College students gave comparison data from Newaygo County and students state-wide regarding Free and Reduced lunch, graduation rates, drop-out rates, persistence and completion rates. Newaygo County has a 5% higher graduation rate than state averages and a 3-7% lower dropout rate. All are invited to attend the final report on December 6 at 3pm at Hope College.

**Mr. Jack Hendon, Chairperson of the Operations Subcommittee, presented the following report:**

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Statements and Bills – Mr. Hendon reviewed the financial statements and bills which amounted to \$35,097. The bank balance reflects \$144. Motion by Tuuk, supported by Berger, to approve the financial statement and payment of bills. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Board Vacancies – There were no recommendations to replace Mr. Bowman from White Cloud. Nominations can be sent to Jack Hendon. Scott Swinehart from Edward Jones in Newaygo has agreed to take the seat vacated by Mr. Guzniczak and will be inducted at the next meeting.

Late Fees – Several students have submitted late applications which has taken a significant amount of administrative time. The Operations Committee recommends adding a \$50 late fee for students who submit after the deadline. The Promise Zone currently communicates application deadlines by way of the Remind App, email and Facebook.

**Action Items:**

MCC Tuition Payment – Motion by Hendon, supported by Bowman, to approve the MCC tuition payment not to exceed \$250,000. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Baker Tuition Payment – Motion by Anderson, supported by Witter, to approve payment of the Baker 2018 Fall tuition in the amount of \$4,627. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Assessment of Late Fee – Motion by Witter, supported by Bowman, to approve assessing a late processing fee of \$50 per incident for students who miss the application and renewal deadlines. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.


Resignation of Forrest (Woody) Bowman – Motion by Bowman, supported by Boerger, to accept the resignation from Forrest (Woody) Bowman from the Newaygo County Promise Zone Authority Board. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Information from the Board:**

- MAT2 Program - Mrs. Roberts shared an email from Mark Lagerwey from Baker College's MAT2 program, a mechatronics program which partners with local employers to create apprenticeship opportunities. Dr. Clark reported that there are roughly 5-6 students that expressed interested in the program but only two of those students currently meet the 2.5 GPA requirement. Melissa Miller indicated that college advisors have also been promoting the program without much success.
- FAFSA Vacancy – Mrs. Roberts announced that FAFSA will be hiring a new staff person in community investment. The Promise Zone would be part of their portfolio.
- ReThink Newaygo County – Dr. Clark shared information on an event at Lakes 23 promoting opportunities to those returning from out-of-the-area to relocate to Newaygo County. She will promote the Promise Zone at that event.

Motion by Bowman, supported by Moon, to adjourn. Ayes – 10, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm.



Dr. Lori Tubbergen Clark, Chairperson

