



## **Newaygo County Area Promise Zone Authority Board of Directors Meeting**

Tuesday, November 22, 2022

NC RESA Educational Services Center Board Room

### **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Present:** Blake Prewitt (chairperson), Scott Rumsey, Becky Tuuk, Jack Hendon, Pat Brown, Dawn Anderson, Holly Moon, Scott Swinehart, Dick Dunning, Kathy Pope

**Absent:** Tim Rossler, Don VanSingel,

**Visitors:** Melissa Miller, Chelsea Reynhout, Jody Zerlaut, Loretta Towne (recorder)

Chairperson Blake Prewitt called the meeting to order at 11:50 a.m.

#### **Approval of the Agenda:**

Motion by Tuuk, supported by Moon, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Rumsey, supported by Hendon, to approve the August 9, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes as presented. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

#### **Public Participation:**

Blake Prewitt opened the floor for public comments. There were none.

#### **Scott Rumsey presented the following report on behalf of the Operations Subcommittee:**

- Blake Prewitt shared that when our Board was initially formed it was a working Board and certainly needed to be, now with changes and staffing should we look at moving to a policy Board? Holly Moon shared that it would be helpful to have a job description for board roles. Kathy Pope added that these descriptions should have clear understanding that board members are not just ambassadors but outline giving amounts/expectations. The Operations Committee will do further research and bring options to our next meeting.
- Later in the meeting we will ask for approval of an up to \$1,000 in expenditures that can be paid prior to the next Board Meeting.
- From the discussion during the Annual Meeting held just prior to this one, the Operations Committee will look at our GPA requirements, gather data needed and ways in which we can best support more students along with suggested thresholds and dollar amounts to be presented and further discussed at our next quarterly meeting.
- Melisa Miller shared a flyer about the Michigan Achievement Scholarship. This is the State's new flagship aid opportunity. Details are being worked out with institutions on how it will be implemented and what the order of payments will be. This is to be effective for the high school graduation class of 2023.
- As mentioned in the Annual Meeting held just prior to this one, Jack Hendon shared that he would like to explore options for better returns (interest rates).

Holly Moon presented the following report on behalf of the Fundraising Subcommittee:

- Fundraising year-to-date is \$81,676.90.
- Friendly reminder to all Board members to give a gift, if possible, Sponsor-A-Scholar.
- Our annual year-end appeal mailing will hit mailboxes next week.
- Our Sponsor-A-Scholar brochures are being put out in the community. Currently at 11 Newaygo County businesses. Will also be adding to Fremont Library, The White Agency, NCATS and Koffee Kuppe.
- Billboards are difficult to secure even if partnering with a business.
- Newaygo Insurance Agency will be printing a banner to put outside their office on M37, it is simple and easy to read and should get some good exposure.
- There was a meeting with a potential large donor, went very well, waiting to hear back. Blake also helped to pitch supporting an additional Success Coach.
- Giving Tuesday is November 29, we will have a Facebook post to remind folks to give and it will coincide with our annual appeal mailing hitting mailboxes.

Becky Tuuk presented the following report on behalf of the Promise Success Initiatives Subcommittee:

- At our last meeting, it was shared that four students did not attend the Mandatory Orientation session. Since then, Chelsea has followed-up with them and three will not be using the Promise Scholarship and the other one has met with Chelsea and is attending MCC.
- On December 5 & 6, we will hold our Snack & Study event for students to come and have food, relax, study, and/or gather with other scholars. Last time, we had about 50 students attend, we are anticipating about the same this time.
- So far this school year, 44 students have met one-on-one with Chelsea or the team.

Melissa Miller presented the following report on behalf of the Marketing and Communications Subcommittee:

- The team is working on creating an aligned social media calendar.
- Please follow us on Facebook @NewaygoCountyPromise.
- Students are using other platforms, not Facebook, we are exploring Instagram to better connect and reinforce our support. More to come on the creation of our Instagram page and aligned social media calendar.

#### Action Items:

MSU Summer Tuition Payment: Motion by Dunning, supported by Hendon, to approve summer tuition from MSU totaling \$1,196.50. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

MSU Fall Tuition Payment: Motion by Moon, supported by Swinehart, to approve fall tuition from MSU totaling \$1,114.00. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

MCC Fall Tuition Payment: Motion by Tuuk, supported by Brown, to approve fall tuition from MCC up to the amount of \$210,000. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Year-End Appeal Design: Motion by Moon, support by Tuuk, to approve (retroactively) payment of \$200.00 to Emily Truax for the design of the year-end appeal mailing. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Year-End Appeal Mailing: Motion by Swinehart, support by Moon, to approve payment of up to \$2,000.00 to KCI for the year-end appeal mailing expenses. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

\$1,000 Expenditures: Motion by Rumsey, support by Brown, to approve a threshold of up to \$1,000 in expenditures that can be paid prior to the next Board meeting. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

**Information from Promise Zone Board Members:**

Holly Moon shared that she will be presenting to the Newaygo County Retired Teachers Association in April 2023.

Dick Dunning shared that we could potentially use SCORE Mentoring to link up students with businesses and/or mentors in their chosen career pathway.

Dawn Anderson shared that she is back to tutoring students.

**Adjournment:**

Motion by Swinehart, supported by Hendon, to adjourn. Ayes – 9, Nays – 0. Motion unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

  
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Blake Prewitt, Chairperson