

**Minutes of Board meeting 02/26/15**

Meeting convened at 12:05 p.m.

**Attendees:** Paul Agosta, Patty Cantu, Christy Cloud-Webb, Gary Gilger, Greg Marks, Mary Sutton, Vass Theodoracatos, Monique Q. Wells, Ali Elyaderani

**On the phone:** Linda Daichendt, Patty Farell-Cole, Lisa Gordon, Greg Johnson, Jodie Ledford, Brandon Locus, Victor Naidu, Derhun Sanders, Michael Tanoff, Tom Weseels, Jenny Schanker,

**Apologies**: -

**Guest Attendees:** -

**Public Comments:** There were no public comments.

**Consent agenda:** The minutes of the January meeting did not approve.

**Welcome Members and Guests** **ED**  **Meeting Protocol**  **ED**

Regarding the Michigan lake hub meeting (two weeks ago), ED (Christy Cloud) reported that Senator John Proos provided the Michigan STEM Partnership with a video recording ( the video clip’s link is available on Michigan STEM Partnership Google drive) which explains the roles of both the House and Senate in preparing more job opportunities for future graduate in STEM fields. In the video, Amanda Price (representative) outlines opportunities for students and highlights the need to encourage more women to engage in the science, engineering and math fields. Phil Pavlov (senator/education chair) mentioned that career technical education need to be recognized for STEM Education in State of Michigan.

Regarding the video, Mike Tannoff commented that because on the wording used to explain the legislation in the video clip the intentions of Senator Proos and his colleagues is not clear.

Regarding Mike’s points, Paul Agosta commented, that senator Proos clearly mentioned that classes we offer in math and science are STEM based.

ED mentioned that the copy of the legislation should be available at math and science network.

Regarding legislation video clip, Linda commented that idea of designation is valuable and acceptable. However, there should be multiple designations because of the different natures of these areas.

Jenny Schanker mentioned that from higher education point of view, STEM designation is valuable but there should be “college career ready program” available to students. She added that we need to work with senator Proos and his team to create a specific program which include “college career ready program”.

Paul Agosta responded that currently there are many “college career ready” activities around and partnership needs to get more involved.

Mike Tannoff commented that we need to be careful when we apply terms “STEM education”. He also added that we should distinguish between STEM educations and four years college education.

Paul added that in today’s education curriculum system, science courses are taught with their application.

Linda clarified, that the point of designation from the education standpoint, is to understand what the employers’ expectation are from candidates and whether the STEM programs are preparing students properly. We need to look at the situation from both education and business standpoint.

ED added that from the conversation she had with senator Proos earlier, his intention was to introduce the policy and make sure the bill passes. She said, Senator asked us to be vocal and get more involved with the process.

Mary added that it is critical to know what would be our questions during this process.

**Board Action**

**Conflict of Interest Policy:**

Regarding our effort to become a 501C3, ED mentioned that currently we do not have an approved conflict of interest policy. She reported that sample policies from IRS and Math and Science Network Center website have been secured (These examples would be available on our Google doc for your review). ED also added that all of the board members must sign the conflict of interest form. She added that this document is required as a part of our application for 501C3 process.

Gary also added that through this process we are making a statement that we are not getting personal benefits.

Gary reported that we probably will be ready to submit the application by the end of the March. Paul added that we would make the application available on Google doc and ask Executive Committee members to add their recommendations and approve that for our next meeting.

ED mentioned that documents for the application for grants and its rubric are finished and the documents will be available on this Friday (Documents will be available for your review on Google drive).

**Executive Director Position –** Board Action

Based on the candidates’ background, the MI STEM Partnership board members decided to choose the candidate who has more experience in writing grant proposals, some experience in executive positions and some background in business fields.

Board took motion in order to choose Gary Farina as the Michigan STEM Partnership’s executive director. The motion was passed.

Paul mentioned that we will have a presence in governor’s education conference in downtown next week and both Gary and Christy will attend.

Transitioning for the new executive director will be at the end of the March, 2015.

**Michigan Career Education Conference Paul Agosta**

Paul reported that the conference included a presentation about Mechatronics and physics. The presentation outlined application based learning and provided students the opportunity to understand physics and activities to apply the knowledge. The term they used was Mechaphysics which intend to be physic course based on Mechatronic standards.

**MSTA**

**ASM Tech Early College High School Lego Robotics Grant ED**

ED mentioned that the conference was held last week. The purpose of this particular showcase is to demonstrate what is happening around state for STEM education. The ED also added that for the Michigan science teachers association conference is being held this week and video clip about our grantees and our grant application is being made available (You may find the link for this video on our Google docs).

ED also added that 2015 grant opportunities will start this weekend and the grants applications are due on April 10th. Grant awards will be announced by May 15th.

**STEM Hub Review/Updates HUB Liaisons**

**Straits Hub -** Tom reported that a STEM Showcase was held in Warrington on February 17th. They hope to provide a similar showcase in the Fall.

**Lake Michigan Hub -** Mike reported that a panel discussion was held with local engineers to identify the specific talents businesses are seeking in job applicants.

**Bay Hub** - Greg Marks reported that Darcy McMahon was selected as the Executive Director of Bay Hub. In April, they have a meeting in order to review the last year grant process and make decision on next grant round. They are also going to discuss about the relationship between the Bay Hub and Prosperity Regions in their area.

**Saint Clair Hub -** Greg Johnson will update the board members next time.

**Break**

Break at 1:10 to 1:22

**Executive Director’s Report**  ED

**Committee Updates:**

* **Executive Committee Chair**

Executive Committee updates:

Paul reported; in order to get more engaged with Education Committee members (regarding STEM) the executive committee reached out to Representative Adam Zemke. Based on these meetings we want to align our hubs structures with prosperity zones in order to get more engaged. As a result, the governor has given MEDC responsibility for STEM. Paul also mentioned that we should improve our relationship with MEDC to be more engaged with employers.   
Paul suggested, in order to engage more people, Christy and Heather should prepare a one page documents which we can use to introduce the Partnership to organizations and people.

Several of the EC members will be attending the Governors Economic and Education Summit. The ED took a poll to identify who is attending the conference on Monday and Tuesday. Gary will be attending on Monday and Monique will be joined on Tuesday. Lisa Gordon will be there on both days. Victor will be attending on Monday. Paul will be there on both days. Patty Cantu will be there on both days. Christy will be there on both days. Derhun Sanders will be attending on Monday.

Vass asked what values are expected from partnership by MEDC. Paul replied that MEDC is looking for more engagement and they expect us to participate in their meetings.

Based on our strategic directions discussed in November, Monique asked if we have any documents at the Hub level that identifies the hub’s goals and visions coordinated with STEM Partnership requirements.

Paul mentioned that Adam Zincky is trying to be a conduit for us to make our communication easier.

Patty Cantu added that the Ten Prosperity Regions’ main purpose is to recognize talents in our community. She also added that Adam Zemke is trying to put a broad group together to help to garner private funds/corporate donations to help move STEM along.

Lisa Gordon added that, as a liaison from region ten, she has reached out the other liaison across the state to make sure they are in contact with their hubs.

Brandon Lucas asked what discussions have occurred around accountability measures. Paul explained that we have had conversations with Amy and we need to have MEDC representative on our board.

Patty Cantu added that the governor already has STEM scorecard as accountability measures.

Paul added that we need to communicate to the hubs to make sure we engage people in STEM and our hubs.

Patty added that at the Summit (will be held on Monday and Tuesday) they will have breakout session for all ten regions and having STEM experts in that summit could help to give out people hubs contact information.

* **Strategic Direction Committee Brandon Lucas/Monique Wells**

Monique explained that there would soon be a document available. The whole purpose of this document is to capture what we are doing in the hub. There would be questions on the document regarding who is taking the lead on certain programs. Later we can make this document available to all five hubs.

* **Governance Committee Greg Marks**
* **Communication Committee Heather Gallegos**

Heather will explain about the communication committee next time.

* **Special Task Force – grants Brandon Lucas/Andrew Smart**

Has been explained

* **Special Task Force – Executive Director search Gary Gilger**

Gary will explain about Task Force next time.

**Next Meeting Date – March 26, 2015 ED**

Paul added that we are going to make some actions for the board. We need to look at our spending in executive committee and make some recommendation to the board before the next board meeting. We also need to look at the conflict of interest document that needs to be approved. We also need to have a clear understanding of what we are doing in this organization

**Adjourn ED**

**ED reminded that the next meeting will be held on March 26, 2014.**

**The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.**