

Red Cedar Environmental Institute

Regular board meeting 10/16/12

Present: Sheryl Claflin, president; Dale Hanson, vice-president; Rick Jacob, treasurer; Andrea Beach, secretary; Joe Bognar, director; Ashly Steinke, director; Mike Steiner, director.

1. Approve previous board meeting minutes. Approved and seconded by RJ/JB. Unanimous approval.
2. Public comments: none
3. Approve agenda: Approved and seconded by RJ/DH. Unanimous approval.
4. Financial: Bank account: current balance \$2593.95. Fundraising: HARVEST FEST net profit is \$1127.00. Potential income from honey is approximately \$1000.00. Discussion follows regarding extra t-shirts and passing these along to our sponsors and selling remainder at next years event.
5. Implementation renewal grant: discussion follows regarding proposed grant revisions. Grant award amount has been approved for \$150,000.00. Approval of revisions: Motion made by RJ and seconded by SC. All in favor for unanimous approval.
6. Enrollment: Current enrollment is 30. A few withdrawals and admissions have occurred. Three students are currently on the waiting list. Discussion regarding the enrollment process follows and regarding expansion for next year. Planning grant proposal was to increase enrollment from 30 to 45 students (6-8) and add another teacher. Future goal may be grades 6-12 with multi-district enrollment vs remaining at current status. Current students are all from CW district. Mr. Brown to be approached regarding cooperative agreements from other surrounding districts as previously discussed. In terms of transportation- some drop off sites are already established for children bussing out of the district. Classroom space is a major issue at present and expansion may not be feasible in middle school building. DNR has just purchased a camp in New Auburn and MS plans to research this. In terms of enrollment period, this time frame needs to be reconsidered with perhaps later start and later end date for a universal enrollment. Proposal is 4/1/13 through third Tuesday of April 2013 to be added to need agenda for board approval. First agenda item will be facilities and expansion plans and cooperative agreements to include Mr. Brown and Mr. Yenter.
7. Facilities/equipment: Bike trailer is back with signs.
8. Marketing: Attracting students from area schools is discussed with expansion plans (above #6). Plans for this year- radio time to be discontinued. Survey of students & parents has not implemented yet. MS would like to add FAQ's to web page to help market to parents and students in terms of a good fit for RCEI. Outgoing vs incoming parent question. Adopt a highway program was brought up by Mrs. Estreen. Requirements are for thrice weekly cleanup of 2 mile section. Safety is discussed. Hwy SS may be a good potential. Group likes this idea. SC reports the shoreline restoration area is undergoing archeological investigation as potential burial ground.
9. School Updates: MS report the year is off to a good start. Good parental involvement. Project Foundry is helping to track student projects. Conferences will take place 10/22/12 as well as displays in the cafeteria.
10. Meeting adjourned at 2029. RJ/ AS. Next meeting Wed 11/14/12 at 6pm.