

**STEM Action Center**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 12, 2018**

**Call to Order**

Chair Dave Hill called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center at 1:08 pm on March 12, 2018 at WW-53, Boise Capitol.

**Roll Call**

Chair Hill noted we did not have a quorum and several members were in route from a meeting outside town. He postponed approval of the minutes until their arrival.

The following were present: Tim McMurtrey, Dave Hill, Amy Lientz (for Mark Peters), Bobbi Jo Meuleman, Dee Mooney, Von Hansen and Melinda Smyser.

**STEM Center Staff:** Angela Hemingway, Erica Compton, Finia Dinh, Stephanie Lee, Crispin Gravatt, Cory Compton, and Maureen O'Toole

**Absent:** Lorna Finman and Mark Peters

**Past Board Minutes Approved** – Once a quorum was present Dave asked for comments on the minutes. No comments, minutes therefore approved for January 9, 2018 meeting.

**Welcome and Introductions:**

Dave informed the members that we would be moving quickly through the first part of the Agenda as Angela would be testifying in front of the Senate Ed Committee at 2pm. At that time the meeting would break for 45 minutes.

Dave invited Marilyn Whitney to address the issue of Senate Bill 1233. The bill has passed which will address the appointments of the STEM AC Advisory Board. The 5 industry-related members appointed by the Governor will serve for 3 years instead of 4 years in an effort to increase potential of recruiting new Board members. The terms of the first board will be staggered with 3 appointments expiring July 1, 2018; three appointments expiring July 1, 2019 and three appointments expiring July 1, 2020. From then on the terms will be for 3 years.

Dave asked if the government agencies would still be represented by the Department's head. Marilyn clarified that they that Department/Agency heads will be on the Board as they are named specifically in the legislation.

**STEM AC Updates:**

**1. Goal #1 Coordinate and facilitate implementation of STEM programs throughout Idaho**

**a. ISEF:**

- i.** ISU was held last weekend and NISEF in Coeur d'Alene was March 3<sup>rd</sup>. WISEF in Boise is March 16<sup>th</sup> in the Simplot Ballroom at BSU.
- ii.** Crispin is working on round 2 of the Camp Grants. We have over \$258K requested funding.

- iii. Other programs in the works include: Ready Set Drones; Dual Credit; Making Sense of Science; ASSET-Engineering design; Early STEM PD workshop; Rural Community STEM Engagement pilot; Educurious; C-STGEM; VR4Ed; IDoCode; CS Co-Op and Jr. BotBall.
  - b. iSTEM:
    - i. We have 37 strands at 6 different sites. Every post-secondary school in Idaho is involved. We will be taking applications for teachers until March 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. Sponsorships include INL and Micron financial and in-kind partnerships

## 2. GOAL #2: Align education and workforce needs throughout Idaho

- a. Project – based Virtual Mentorship: Angela reported that we have received a grant to help expand our mentorship platform. The organization was really impressed by our plans for developing a mentorship program.
  - a. US2020: Waiting for final word on the grant award and the PR release.
- b. CS High School Opportunities and CS related legislation: HB 648 will be taken up today and Angela will be testifying. The bill will make computer science available in grades 9-12 in 2020. The classes may be in person classes or online. This legislation is similar to one that passed in Arkansas. Finia has created a document outlining what the STEM AC is doing to support CS in the schools with PD opportunities for HS educators.
- c. STEM AC Foundation Update: Maureen
  - ◆ Maureen reported the foundation has been very successful in the couple of months we have been actively soliciting donations. The foundation has received matching grants with INL, 2K for ISEF and the US2020 \$50K grant is still in process. We have signed up to participate in Idaho Gives which is May 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - ◆ IRS: We are still waiting for the final status as a 501C3 form the IRS. They have told Maureen that they are several months behind in processing applications and it appears that instead of January, April will be the likely date. The Foundation is still able to operate under a provisional status.
  - ◆ Maureen has made several presentations to the Caldwell superintendent as well as the Sunrise Rotary club. As a result the Rotary has invited us to apply for a grant
- d. Donor Update:
  - ◆ Angela reported that our donor totals as of March 9 are \$650K making us well ahead of our yearly goal of \$500K. Donors continue to choose to support PDs and competitions as first choice programs.
  - ◆ In-Kind: Angela reported that we have \$1.41M in in-kind donations as of March 1. These in-kind donations include judges, mentors, industry partnerships and media coverage.
  - ◆ Angela's longer-term goal is to have annual fundraising goal of \$2M with ½ in-kind and ½ in cash donations.
- e. **CALL TO ACTION:**
  - ◆ Summer PD Opportunities: We need educators. Help us get the word out about our summer opportunities to potential participants.
  - ◆ Mentorship Portal: Angela shared the new Mentor flyers for one for teachers and one for mentors. We have 60 mentors who now may have to wait until fall for us to

recruit more teacher/students with their projects. ACTION: Help us to recruit educators and continue to help recruit mentors. Angela shared the process of matching mentors to mentees.

### **3. GOAL #3: Increase awareness of STEM throughout Idaho**

#### **Awareness Events:**

- a. Moon Shot: Erica reported on our participation in the BSU Engineering and Science Festival. In partnership with Idea Brickworks we hosted the Moon Shot build with Legos. We were unable to finish the 11ft Saturn rocket in the one day so stay tuned.
- b. Media Coverage: We received extensive media coverage for FabSLAM and ISEF across the state.
- c. Impact Data: Crispin continues to update the impact map to reflect on the opportunities being funded by the AC around the state. Angela reported that every estimate for FY18 will be surpassed.

#### **Strategic Plan:**

- d. Angela reported that the updated Strategic Plan is due July 1, 2018 and that we will need input from the Board to help with that process.
- e. Cory will be sending out a Doodle poll with dates for a meeting in June. Members of the Board may call in on the conference line to participate.
- f. A brief discussion was had around the issue of CS and STEM and how these two cannot easily be separated. Angela gave the example of coding. Though this is CS it is usually done with a purpose such as robots, virtual reality or 3D printing. Dave suggested we table this discussion and talk about it during the strategic plan meeting.

### **4. STEM Summit:**

- a. A discussion was had around the issue of a STEM Summit vs the Governor's Summit.
- b. The NGA Workforce Development Grant requires that a Governor's Summit be held. A STEM Summit would include similar participants so it was discussed if these two summits should be combined.
- c. Dave suggested that even though they might include similar participants they have different purposes and that perhaps they could be back to back summits over two days for efficiency sake.
- d. ACTION: Angela will continue to look into this and keep the Board up to speed on what she learns.

### **5. JFAC Appropriations FY19:**

- a. Cash appropriation is the same as last year.
- b. The requested 2 new FTE was approved however only one was funded. The Data Analyst position was approved but not funded. It is unclear if this can be rectified at this time. Angela continues to follow up on this.
- c. The Data Analyst position will be a contractor position as it is currently if it cannot be funded.

## **6. Legislation**

### **STEM School Designation:**

- a. The second STEM School Designation meeting was held on Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> at OSBE resulting in a draft of the rubric for implementation.
- b. The third meeting will be on April 4<sup>th</sup> where Angela hopes to finalize the scoring rubric/guide and agreements so that schools can begin applying for the STEM Designation in May and be awarded in the fall of 2018. This would allow schools to reap the benefits of being designated a STEM school for the entire year.
- c. Dave commented that there is nothing to be done legally or in terms of legislation

### **FY19 Legislation – Passed**

- a. STEM AC legislation was discussed earlier in the meeting with Marilyn's presentation.
- b. Science Standards were passed with both the performance standards and the supporting content.

## **7. Updated Data from IDOL**

- a. IDOL has released new numbers regarding unfilled STEM jobs. The new number is 6,000 that went unfilled in 2017.
- b. There are nearly 1500 "hard to fill jobs" defined as jobs unfilled for over 90 days.
- c. Agreement in place to soon have our own data base to provide people with information on STEM jobs.

## **8. Innovation Collective's Ten Cities Model Presentation:**

- a. Angela provided context for the presentation by commenting on the forward thinking model and that she would like to have Board feedback on the potential partnership.
- b. Nick Smoot founder of the Innovative Collective provided an overview of the Ten Cities Model concept and purpose. Discussed how whole cities become incubators for STEM innovation and engage all citizens.
- c. Angela emphasized that this is an "Idaho grown" organization.
- d. The funding issue was proposed to be \$100K for 10 cities at \$10K per city. The expectation at the end of one year would be that companies would be created though not self-sustaining after just one year. Dave wondered if the founding rules for the STEM AC allowed for this funding. Angela pointed to several lines in out legislation that do allow for funding a project like this.
- e. ACTION: Need more time to review and determine what the potential really is. May need a more formal proposal perhaps even a legal opinion as to whether this is legally appropriate for the STEM AC to fund. Documents provided by Innovation Collective have since been provided to the Board.

### **Public Comment:** Dave opened up the meeting to public comment.

- Senator Nonini was in attendance and commented on how much enjoyed the NISEF in CDA and the Science Bowl at BSU. He praised the good work of the STEM AC.
- Charles Buckhorn of U of I spoke on the importance of UI/STEM AC partnerships.

**Call to Action:**

- Need help spreading the word about summer PD opportunities as well as recruiting people for the mentorship program

**Upcoming Events:**

- March 16, 2018 WISEF at BSU in the Simplot Ballroom
- March 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> FIRST Robotics at Taco Bell

**Next STEM Board meeting will be May 4<sup>th</sup> and Augusts 22nd from 1-4PM**

Starting in May we will be going to EDOCS for all Board Meetings.

Adjourned at 3:34 PM