

STEM Action Center

Board Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2016

Call to order

Chair Hill called to order the regular meeting of the STEM Action Center on May 17, 2016 at WW-53, Boise Capitol.

Roll call

Chair Hill conducted a roll call. The following persons were present: Dave Hill, Chuck Zimmerly, Ken Edmunds, Dee Mooney, Megan Ronk, Jeff Williams, Amy Lientz (for Mark Peters), Angela Hemingway, and Erica Compton.

Lorna Finman excused and absent, Von Hansen absent

Past Board Notes Approved – March 7, 2016

State Department of Education – Kelly Brady, Director of Mastery Education

- a) Overview of Mastery Education
- b) Overview of statewide participation
- c) Handout provided – Key Shifts of Competency-Based Education
- d) Pilot projects – Hailey, community-based internships
- e) 19 districts have been signed up to participate and are part of a network across Idaho.
- f) Board questions – clarification on Idaho participation, grades, and if there are results showing in higher education.

501c3 Update

- a) E.D. Hemingway provided an update on meetings with state employees regarding what it takes to obtain this status. Pros and Cons discussed. Separation of the two offices (STEM AC and STEM AC Foundation) imperative and required.
- b) Asked to circle back on this in a 6 months or so.
- c) Board discussions – Chair Hill concurs and things there are other priorities; Jeff W questioned how they function – how do the 2 boards function and interact? Chair Hill confirmed that they need to be separate. Ken stated that he feels that this is not as complex as we are making it. Ken really wants to pursue it sooner rather than later. Ken is willing to take on the job of getting more information to present to the Board at the August Board meeting. Board agrees to this course of action.

- d) Grants update - \$73k of the \$100k appending authority has been received. Spent time with partners submitting a variety of grants such as INCLUDES (NSF) which were not funded, but that is part of the process.
- e) Amy L – INL is starting to their budget planning process soon. They want to work with 501c3 when they can. Federal budgets start October 1st. Get your message clear and out there soon in order to capitalize on this.
- f) ED Hemingway states that we are presenting the STEM Matters campaign to ITC Board next week. Hope that this is the start of fundraising for the coming fiscal year.
- g) ISEF – 12 members of the planning committee and moving forward with locations and dates.
- h) Tracking funding that we facilitated even if they did not flow through the Center directly. Indirect funding. Chair Hill – record what you can and don't overstate! Correlation not causation.
- i) Megan – pointed out that Salesforce can be used to assist with the tracking of indirect funding.

CS Program Manager Update

- a. Phone interviews, face to face interviews next week. Hope to introduce him/her to you at the August Board Meeting.

Strategic Plan and Performance Report Update

- a) Strategic plan is a required document due July 1, 2016. E.D. Hemingway has been researching other SP templates to get a sense of what is out there.
- b) Will be sending out a doodle poll for two different meetings – 2 hours each. Can attend one or two or neither. Also would be helpful to have virtual reviewers. Chair Hill asked to focus on content, not style or format to start. Focus on the measurable outcomes. Substance important. Chair Hill will be out of country for the first meeting, but will attend the second meeting.
- c) Some discussion on the Board's role in creating the SP. Are they just responsible for approving the plan that ED Hemingway and Erica Compton create? Chair Hill clarified that this is something that is important for all to be involved in as they are able.

- d) Megan commented on the template that state agencies must use and this might look different than a private SP. May look a bit prescriptive.

State Department of Education – Rick Kennedy, Coordinator of MS Imagine Academy

- a. MS Imagine – renamed from MS IT Academy
- b. Handouts provided
- c. Including public libraries this year as well. One focus is to work with Veterans and include them as much as possible. Using libraries for this purpose in particular.
- d. 135 High Schools signed up to use MSIA. Each school also gets 500 certifications. Some schools are moving towards mandatory MS certifications in Word, Excel.
- e. The STEM AC's role might evolve into helping to implement this in public libraries after the original \$1million is spent. Reaching out to the libraries – getting the local libraries the professional development they need. Getting the word out to the folks that need this training. Also can support with licenses since most of the high schools will use all of these when we get them all up and running.

Chairman Hill called for a short break. 2:20

Reconvened at 2:35

FabSLAM and LearnStorm Updates

PM Compton shared details on the Showcase Event at DCI. Highlighted the winning team projects and websites. Chair Hill asked about next steps. Compton shared that the STEM AC will be providing funds to send the Lone Star MS team to DC for the Week of Making, National Maker Faire, and perhaps the Capitol Hill Maker Faire. However we have limited budget remaining and so Lone Star is looking for outside funding to make up the difference. Would be beneficial to Idaho to showcase their work on the national level.

Draft Budget Proposal Discussion

E.D. Hemingway shared the STEM budget and CS budget overviews.

Ken stated that he does not feel that the budget reflects one of the main items that we need to address – raising additional funding through industry as discussed and emphasized during the legislative session.

Ken concerned that we do not have the SP in place to drive the spending of the \$4million. Chair Hill stated that this is why the SP is such an important element and needs to be taken so seriously. We are a bit backward, but given the tight timelines in getting the Center up and running and the emphasis on getting the initial funds out the door and showing results, it was necessary.

A discussion ensued on the budget and the SP and ways that we can move forward while still being thoughtful of our outcomes and goals.

ED Hemingway clarified that this budget is an initial plan that can be adjusted and modified as we develop a SP. Ken clarifies that it is the Board's responsibility, not the STEM AC staff to address this and get this in place.

Amy – makes the point that industry likes to give to projects. Do we want to give to these organizations that are already being funded by INL, Micron and others?

Chair Hill shared a story regarding a recent graduation where he was able to spend time with Rep Horman. She stated that she needs to see performance now that we have been funded.

Chair Hill shared that the SDE and the SBE are going to take a look at the state of math education in Idaho. Getting a sense of where we are as a state. The core team will report out to main partners after the review. What do we know, how do we know it? What is the data telling us? Need to know all of this before they go forward with a plan/solution.

Public Comments – NONE

Next Meeting date – Doodle poll will be sent out for an early August meeting.

Chair Hill adjourned the meeting at 3:55 pm