Agenda for March 23, 2022 - Wednesday

2:15pm

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Frieda Harris, Marcy Moore, Teacher-Admin Sylvia Wolff. Members of the public: Jacquelin Winter, Erin Price, Amy Adams, Karen Clark.

The meeting was called to order at 2:16pm. A quorum was established.

Board action

* Approve February minutes – Meghan made a motion to approve the February meeting minutes. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Face covering policy review – was changed in special meeting and stands as amended at the special meeting.
* School cleaning update – In a previous meeting the board discussed offering a contract to an interested party but that company is now too busy to accept additional work.
* Epicenter up to date EXCEPT “Employee Dishonesty” liability insurance – Meghan met with Linda Woodard, our insurance agent, who will follow up. The policy will be submitted by the June date. The policy requirement doesn’t seem relevant to WEVS but must be in place regardless.
* Educational Leave – Recent request discussed by board via email. Approved with some modification.

President’s Report

* Lottery held: Seven students were accepted, and so far all have enrolled. Some on the lottery list removed themselves the day of the drawing (one multiple birth, two in Jarvisburg, one going in to 8th grade and happy where they are) so there are 13 students on the waiting list.
* Renewal of School update – The school charter has renewed for seven years, effective July. Missing data from 2017 due to our size prevented renewal for 10 years.
* Annual appeal report – Tiles have been ordered for 2021 $1000 donors but are delayed due to “supply chain” problems.
* OBCF Grant – WEVS was approved for $10,000 and OBCF requested to hear from us again this year following hurricane season.
* Donor database – Mailchimp was updated for 2022. CEF received two $1000+ donations in February from locals, and one donation for $150 in memory of “Mark the Baker.”

Treasurer’s Report

The fiscal year for Corolla Education Foundation and WEVS is 2/3 of the way completed.  
  
There is $263,890 in the operating account and $313,890 in the building fund at Towne Bank, plus another $120,000 in CDs for a rough total of $740k.  
  
This is a strong total toward launching the public phase of the building capital campaign. I think we are ready to launch the campaign.  
  
Next month, after the 3rd quarter, I will give a more detailed financial report.  
  
For February, Currituck and Dare county funds continued to flow keeping CEF on track with public revenue. The REAP funds, (for isolated rural schools) has helped tremendously but will run out in March or early April. Expenses in all categories remain on or under budget. $7k of federal IDEA -060 money was used, which reduced the state draw. Health insurance expenses are running higher than budgeted YTD  - but no real concern. There is $16k of ESSER-182 money still unused to spend within guidelines. Part of TowneBank’s donation was received in February. For the month, there was a surplus of $34\_\_\_\_thanks largely to donations.

Committee Reports

* Curriculum/Teacher Eval/Professional Development – Observation/evaluations completed for Teachers Fretwell, Sonnenberg, and Allen. Susan found their teaching inspirational and creative. Observation/evaluation for Teacher Voldish is scheduled for next Tuesday. She is currently in Ocracoke for professional development.
* Capital Campaign Committee Update – The committee continues to meet weekly. A meeting with SAGA is scheduled for next week. A grant was received from OBCF and they will be in touch with re: photo shoot. The committee is hosting Corolla restauranteurs this weekend to discuss adding a line item to their receipts for donations from customers. The architect will be in town for meetings on 3/31 and 4/1. The committee will having parents open and give tours of the schoolhouse over the summer and the possibility of selling WEVS merchandise. The capital campaign is receiving donations in the name of Kris Lewis, a former lifeguard, through the link shared on Facebook by Kris’s mother. The committee is working on three 1-minute promotional videos, and plans to share $10,000+ donors and photos with local newspapers.
* Grievance Committee – none
* School Improvement Planning (SIP) – Parent involvement is the topic of conversation—helping parents to feel included and like they have a voice. SIP members will invite parents to speak with them before the next meeting. Athletics and after school activities are also topics of discussion.

New Business

* + Review Director [job proposed description](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dENn1TxZHh-KFGGUYEUVpuXn-gonmNVfiH9y-e9Tntc/edit?usp=sharing) with updates for Director of the educational non-profit CEF and open the position with a July 1 start date. Duties will include academic oversight, facilities management, administrative work, HR, hiring contractors, organizing volunteers, managing the lottery and waitlist, keeping student records, community outreach, fundraising, reporting, etc. Meghan reached out to a retiring school administrator who might be interested. The board will review the proposed job description and discuss salary. Bryan and Frieda will research the table for school principal pay rates in NC. Plan to open the position in two weeks and fill as soon as possible. Will also open a teacher position in case the hire comes from within the school.
  + Sylvia emailed the board a proposal from a mindfulness instructor to include in the SEL curriculum. The state has recognized the need for social-emotional support across the board—students, teachers, and even parents—so WEVS has already had to submit an SEL plan to the state. Kerri Applebaum is currently coming in once a week to administer the SEL curriculum. Kerri focuses on social skills, while Leela Heyder (proposed mindfulness teacher) focuses on internal skills—impulse control, self-regulation, resiliency skills. Sylvia discussed Leela’s proposal with Kerri, who expressed her belief that this new curriculum would support the current curriculum very well. Leela uses her own curriculum that meshes with state standards. COVID funds may be available for payment. The curriculum would be delivered during Health and PE. Bryan made a motion to proceed with a contract. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.

Old Business

Teachers/Admin update

* Covid update:
  + WEVS folks in quarantine/positive cases – 0/0 for several consecutive weeks
  + No feedback from parents re: masks. Some students still masking and there are no issues.
* Volunteers – Marcy is helping K/1 with phenomenal success
* Projects – Students finished their landforms project. They are now working on a garden and papermaking. Kid Wind is up next.
* Testing update – Believe testing schedule has been approved. Purchased review material for students who scored not proficient on EOG and believe all students are on track.
* Field trip to CSI and Jockey’s Ridge on Monday was a success. Hoping for a spring trip to the Audubon Society and possibly the living farm.
* Working through BTSP with Teacher Fretwell

Public Comment – Jacquelin Winter proposed a holiday? in July event, following the success of the locally held Christmas in Corolla last December. She suggested opening the school one or two days over a weekend with suggested donations for items for sale (as a nonprofit, CEF cannot sell merchandise for more than 61 days in a calendar year. Jacquelin and Alex have offered to create artwork for t-shirts. The board expressed support for the idea and for anytime the schoolhouse can be open and anytime there is parent involvement.

The board moved to closed session.

Bryan made a motion to adjourn. Meghan seconded, and all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:58pm.