

**MAY 2015 BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**



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Date: Thursday, May 21, at Badgerland Financial

Board Members Present: Nancy Everson, David Rippl, Chris Swenson, Kelly Shipley, David Thwing, Tim Culver, Stephanie Leonard-Witte, Chad Wojtysiak, Shirley Statz, Cassie Montanio, Krista Kaltenberg, Shannon Krachey, Jim Benzine, Molly McGrath, Seth Degnan, Patrick Malinowski.

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order 7:37 a.m. by Patrick Malinowski.

Laura Herschleb shared a wealth of information about Badgerland Financial and welcomed the BEP board. She explained how Badgerland supports the agricultural and rural communities in Wisconsin. She mentioned Farm Technology Days on August 25-27, which is being hosted by Statz Brothers Farms. She expressed that Badgerland would love to become more involved in the Sun Prairie community. Thanks to Badgerland Financial for hosting our meeting this morning.

II. Approval of 5/16/2015 Minutes

Motion to approve by Nancy Everson; seconded by David Rippl. Motion carried.

III. Introduction of Guests/Parents

Patrick Malinowski

Nancy Everson introduced new QBE representative on the board, Jim Benzine. Welcome, Jim!

Erik Olson unable to make the meeting this morning. He wanted to share that the next space planning meeting is May 27th.

IV. Student Feature

Tyler Sheehy

Tyler Sheehy unable to attend today's meeting as he is on a field trip.

V. Finance/Budget Report/Budget 2014-2015

Nancy Everson

Many activities have occurred in the past month and we also took some money in. Expenses were the annual meeting, recognition costs, *Prairie Voices* publication, Reality Rocks, bookcases for Reading Buddies, and some printing costs. Income sources were *Prairie Voices* publication sales and membership dues (old and new).

VI. Old Business

A. Calendar of Upcoming Events

Nancy Everson

Everson shared a calendar of upcoming events. GRIT recognitions, mock interviews, and student recognitions at all elementary schools and both middle schools.

B. Website Update

Stephanie Rohner

No additional progress has been made yet. This group will need to meet in the summer.

C. GRIT Campaign - Recognition Awards Options, Etc.

Nancy Everson

Everson shared what has been accomplished with this program so far this year. Pencils were given out with the recognitions this year at the elementary level. There is interested in doing a different gift this next year, maybe wristbands. Pencils cost about 20 cents each, wristbands 70 cents each, drawstring bags about \$1.45. Grades 6-7 would like to continue the drawings for gift cards; grades 8-12 have no costs involved. Up-a-Grade recognitions at PPA and SPSHS receive Culvers gift cards.

The HS GRIT Program was evaluated, with suggestions of photos and or videos to be shared with the businesses and students, videos and photos used in the high school, a letter of acknowledgement for the students from BEP, use of program in business career workshop classes, students speaking at the Chamber meetings, and plaques of recognition to be displayed at the businesses. It was agreed that the videos created could be edited for shorter versions to be used in classrooms.

VII. New Business

A. Committee Structure

Patrick Malinowski/Nancy Everson

Malinowski shared his plan for the 2015-2016 BEP Partnership Committee Structure. It was agreed that we would have a category for Ongoing Projects which would include Prairie Voices (not as a separate committee now) and Adopt-a-Future.

Everson also shared Rippl's chart for recognition events. Discussion continued about whether or not to have assigned businesses per school. Many suggested that building relationships was the key to cementing volunteers and support. Chad Wojtysiak suggested that this is essential so businesses see where their dues are going and maintain continuity as people may leave positions at business members. Note - On the chart, Sacred Hearts needs to be added. David Thwing spoke about the importance of having a variety of businesses involved at each school's events.

B. Additional Board Position/Dr. Culver

Patrick Malinowski

Patrick Malinowski proposed filling our last empty seat on the board with the nomination of Phil Wiedenbeck from Associated Bank. The motion was seconded by Butler and carried, so Phil Wiedenbeck will be our newest board member. Welcome, Phil!

Tim Culver thanked the board for its support over the years and wished us well. The members of the board also thanked Dr. Culver for his dedication and support. We all wish you well, Tim!

VIII. Current Business

A. Membership

Chris Swenson

Swenson reported that we are fine financially, but that we need to grow our membership and develop our volunteer program. Malinowski will obtain a listing from the Chamber of its businesses. Discussion continued about our membership plaques and letters sent by Deb Schenck. It was suggested that we look to do brand new plaques as it has been a long time since the last update and many new businesses are now in existence.

Everson shared her appreciation of Patrick Malinowski's work as president of the BEP this past year. Her sentiments were echoed by all present. Thank you, Patrick, for your dedicated service.

IX. A motion to adjourn was made by Shipley; seconded by Swenson. Motion carried at 9:06 a.m.

The next meeting BEP Board Meeting is on Thursday, August 20, 2015, at 7:30 a.m. at Prairie Phoenix Academy.

cc: BEP Members, Administrative Team, School Board Members