

Vision: *Preparing and supporting today's students for tomorrow's workforce.*
Mission: *Uniting schools and businesses to help students prepare for their futures.*

SUN PRAIRIE BUSINESS AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP
March 15, 2018 – Minutes (taken by B. Butler)

Present: Carol Smithson, Karen Bailey, Christi Winchell, Krista Kaltenberg, Chris Swenson, Nancy Everson, Marv Hupp, Lisa Bollinger, Krista Kaltenberg, Sharlot, David Thwing, Chad Wojtysiak, Jim Ertel, James Ackley, and Betsy Butler. **Guests:** none.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:45 a.m. by Christi Winchel at Prairie Phoenix Academy.

Welcome & Introductions: Thank you to Marv Hupp, Lisa Bollinger, and PPA for hosting.

Approval of February BEP Minutes: Motion made by Bogart; seconded by Everson. to approve the 2-15-18 minutes. Motion carried.

Student Feature: Taran Katta is out ill.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson shared the financial report. Dues are coming in. Oou only expense is the \$1000 to the All School Read. No other expenses this month; big expenses are coming up. Nancy took the \$1000 out of general checking, not the endowment unless it is needed. Members discussed the book choice for the All School Read at the high school in April. T-shirts are up in the air for GRIT; Krista and Nancy will speak. Nancy received a quote for the bookcases for Reading Buddies. Reality Rocks is gearing up but has minimal expenses.

Membership Report: Chris Swenson reported that the current amount collected is \$5775 - our goal is \$9,000-10,000. After the breakfast at WPPI, Royle joined the BEP as well as Independent Pharmacy Cooperative. We need to distribute clings; please sign up and deliver clings. Swenson has more kits available. Swenson suggested that clings be on the customer door, but also on the employee entrance door or other high-traffic places.

Calendar of Events: Everson shared the updated calendar. March-April is a busy month for us. End of the quarter coming up in April so we will have recognitions; mock interviews at the high school today; Reality Rocks on April 25.

Unfinished Business/Old Business:

- Follow Up to BEP Reach Out Breakfast: James Ackley took over the meeting and shared that the WPPI event was a very successful first event. Ackley shared the

format of the breakfast. Butler passed out the compiled responses for the talk sessions. Our purpose was to grow the BEP. Swenson can't get past the great bacon.:) The table conversations at the event were very telling. Current members were also there. Swenson asked what next steps are planned. Ackley wonders how we get the information the businesses shared to the educators. What does this look like for our schools? We need to share this compiled feedback back to the attenders and non-attenders. Here is what we talked about - still plenty of time to be involved. Board members took time to read the compiled list. We paired to discuss our findings. Takeaways: 1) Do we want to repeat this breakfast? 2) How do we apply what we learned? Part 1: We need to do this again and hit every area of town. Bogart: The attendees need to know we listened. Many of them want to be in the schools and see what's going on. It will be different every time. Everson will be handwriting thank you notes. She noted that many asked about the schools. She talked to the Tech Ed teachers and setting up an hour tour. Ackley/Smithson: Feedback had both technical and soft skills. The skills desired will be different in each area of town. Bogart suggested CHUMS and HS visits. Thwing suggested that the SkillsUSA program at CHUMS is very active. Everson suggested that we have amazing programs in nursing and culinary arts as well. How do we get the teachers to know and understand the need for soft skills? Ackley explained the PBIS program in the schools. Hupp shared that the PPA staff is the entire PBIS team. Hupp concentrates on these soft skills while doing the curriculum. Bogart suggested we have BEP go in to schools and share the importance of soft skills. We need to provide for educators a real world why of why students need to know this. Winchell asked about how the GRIT program works in the schools. Ackley explained that a lot of this is happening K-5. Butler suggested we need to do more with GRIT in the upper grades. Thwing suggested sending ideas from the BEP to the teachers about the skills and how to work them in.

- Follow-up plan to the WPPI event: Send a thank you and condense the results to send to them as a follow up. Set up a tour of the high school. Send board members a list of who attended the WPPI breakfast to all board members.
- Ackley suggested we look at the annual meeting and make it a come look at the high school. This was discussed at length, and it was determined that it cannot happen that way this year. Ackley suggested we set up a group to plan for these events next year, culminating in the annual meeting, possibly at the high school. Another group will look at the 6-12 GRIT program. K-5 include a postcard.
- Change to this year's annual meeting - we are going to hear about the programs. Two purposes - recognitions, thanks you's, this year's Adopt-a-Future recipients, feedback note cards on tables for interest in involvement or membership.

- Swenson stressed we need to focus on getting membership and not to forget that we need the funds to run our programs. Our member numbers have decreased as of late even though Sun Prairie is growing significantly. We must work on this.

New Business:

- BEP Breakfast Review Next Steps (see above)
- Discussion around Annual Meeting & Breakfast (see above)
- Slate - if interested in being the next VP. (please contact Betsy Butler)
- Members to Honor - please contact Nancy or Betsy.

Committee Reports

- Volunteers: Nancy reported earlier.
- Reality Rocks: Discussed earlier.
- Marketing/Membership/PR: Discussed earlier.
- Reading Buddies: Nothing at this time
- GRIT: Discussed earlier.
- Adopt a School: Nothing
- Adopt a Future: Chris said that Nancy found we have 12 students in the program with funds designated for them. Two students will be honored this year.
- Prairie Voices: The program will not happen this year. No one has stepped forward. Betsy will hold a debriefing meeting with the coordinators to see if anyone has other ideas for a similar project that focuses on the importance of writing to propose to the BEP Board.

Activities:

- Working Wednesdays: Going well.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Nothing at this time.
- Career Night: Nothing at this time.
- Mock Interviews: Nothing at this time
- New business for next month - n/a

Adjournment: Motion by Bogart, seconded by Winchel to adjourn at 9:10 a.m. Motion

carried.

Next meeting: Thursday, April 19 at UW Health at the American Center at **7:00 a.m.**

Vision: *Preparing and supporting today's students for tomorrow's workforce.*
Mission: *Uniting schools and businesses to help students prepare for their futures.*