

*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
August 16, 2018 – Minutes (taken by B. Butler)**

Board Members Present: Alex McAndrew, Jim Ertel, James Ackley, Stephanie Wallom, Pam Blattner, Vince Brandl, Evan Warwick, Krista Kaltenberg, Christi Winchel, Marv Hupp, David Thwing, Sarah Smith, Chris Swenson, Jill Conaway, Patrick Malinowski, Seth Degnan, Sharlot Bogart, Betsy Butler. **BEP Members:** Michelle Hornung(Crazy Daisy), Christie Neumann (Madison Kipp), Jean Skinner (SSM Health-Dean).

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:32 a.m. by Sharlot Bogart at Kicks Unlimited.

Welcome & Introductions: Thank you to Seth Degnan and Kicks Unlimited for hosting this morning's meeting. He shared information about the growth of Kicks Unlimited. He has 3 schools now (Sun Prairie, Stoughton, and Fitchburg).

Approval of May BEP Minutes: Motion made by Winchel; seconded by Swenson to approve the 5-18-18 minutes. Motion carried.

Student Feature: Alex McAndrew introduced himself. Big changes upcoming for all students and teachers at the high school in switching to the block schedule.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy Everson is on vacation today, so Betsy shared her report (Look at Nancy's report).

Membership Report: Chris Swenson stated we are still plotting along from last year. Swenson suggested that our dues cycle follows the school year, so that membership requests will go out in Sept. This will be an adjustment year, but it will be worth it in the long run. Our members will understand what we are trying to accomplish. We only have about 4-5 members who have not paid for last year. Letter can articulate the change and the event info for the fall. We need to find ways to communicate opportunities to our members better. Do we want to send a kick off letter in snail mail? We need to look to make a more personal touch. We can do this better. Our personal invitations made a difference last year. Membership rises and falls with personal contact. The partnership sells itself when they know what we are doing. These meetings should be branding as a monthly board meeting. We need to extend this as an invitation.

Calendar of Events: Upcoming events - nothing at this time.

Unfinished Business/Old Business:

- **Committee Structure Review:** Betsy distributed the structure and asked people to explain each committee briefly. Grit Program reboot - focus on middle schools (all 3). Vince Brandl and Sarah Smith would be willing to go speak with people at each of the schools as to what they want in the GRIT program. Malinowski, Kaltenberg, Conaway, Degnan shared information about their committees.
- **October 18th Discussion:** This monthly meeting will be held at the high school in the library as a way to showcase our programs. The program is being put together. It would be great to have more educators there. Our invitees will be the Prairie Lakes area. Swenson would like to extend the invites to other attendees at WPPI. Again, this will be a showcase of our programs and inviting new possible members. Swenson wants a follow up plan. Betsy will create the invitation and outline a program for the next meeting. We will need people to personally deliver invites.

New Business:

- Opening Day for the district - 8-27 at 7:45 a.m.
- Career Day at Cardinal Heights - request made to Nancy. We know nothing more than that.
- **Teacher Professional Development:** Betsy and Christi shared the great experience teachers had learning about the Sun Prairie community. Teachers want to see this again - many others wanted to attend and numbers were limited.
- **Goals for 2018-2019 - our 30th year; "30 for 30"** looking for 30 more businesses to get involved in the schools, actually getting in there. Membership drive focus to gain 30 new members. A suggestion was made to pair an old member with a new member in a marketing publication.

Committee Reports

- 30th Anniversary Committee: Suggestion was made to switch business recognition to the October meeting
- Volunteers: Nancy will be updating that/(maybe membership committee can help with this?).
- Reality Rocks: Nothing at this time.
- Marketing/Membership/PR: Nothing else.

- GRIT: More at the Sept. meeting
- Adopt a School: Nothing new at this time.
- Reading Buddies: Only a few haven't responded. We may need some new partners.
- Adopt a Future: Nothing new at this time. Still waiting for a more detailed report from Chandu.

Activities:

- Working Wednesdays: Colony Brands and Wal-Mart are already set up. Attend 8-24 Football Game to support the first responders.
- Teach-In/Career Day: Nothing at this time.
- Career Night: Nothing at this time.
- Mock Interviews: Nothing at this time.

Adjournment: Motion made by Malinowski, seconded by Kaltenberg to adjourn at 9:04 a.m. Motion carried.

Next meeting: Thursday, September 20th, at Meadow View Elementary at 7:30 a.m.

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