



FOUNDATION
FOR
RUSHFORD-PETERSON SCHOOLS

Foundation for Rushford-Peterson Schools Meeting Minutes
Friday, April 6, 2018 | 8:00am | Administrative Meeting Room

Chair Ryman called the meeting to order at 8:05.

Present:, Chuck Ehler, Sally Ryman, Claire Olstad, Kathy Wade, Jen Hengel, Donna Boyum, Jenny Helgemoe, Jack Culhane, June Vitse, John Linder, Jo Anne Agrimson

Not Present: Hannah Ledebuhr; Matt Strapp, Joyce Iverson

Approval of Agenda: Chuck Ehler moved to approve the agenda; Donna Boyum seconded. Agenda approved.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Kathy Wade moved, Jack Culhane seconded, to approve the March meeting minutes. Motion Carried.

Bills to Pay: The quarterly bill of \$212.75 from the Rushford-Peterson Valley Chamber of Commerce for Jen Hengel's contract hours for the first quarter was presented. Note that there were more hours this quarter due to scholarship payments in January and deposits from the scholarship drive in March. Chuck Ehler moved, Claire Olstad seconded, to approve payment. Motion Carried.

Deposits: The main activities were the two scholarship fund drives:

- \$1190 was deposited for the telephone scholarship drive
- \$100 was deposited for the named Scholarship fundraising
- \$1250 was deposited for the Trade Scholarship Drive

Financial Report: Kathy Wade made the motion, Claire Olstad seconded to approve the financial report. Motion carried.

Bluff Land Tri: Kathy Wade has been working with Tempo, the race registration website affiliated with Gopher State Events. Discussion was held concerning starting time and fees. Should the Tri begin at 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.? A 9:30 start time allows people to get going early; however, the high school students had spoken last year. They do not want an early start on a Saturday. Grades 3 and under could start at 9:30.

How much do we charge? Kathy Wade suggested at least \$5 more for all three events. That would be \$45 registration fee. Others joined in the discussion. Could we charge \$50 and give a short-sleeved T-shirt? Will there be options as there were last year, with family rates? The goal is to begin and end at Creekside to give us only one timing site, which is more cost-effective for us working with Gopher State Events. \$100 family rate suggested; we will have to decide how many free T-shirts go to each family. It was suggested that registering as a family means 4 free t-shirts, perhaps saving money by taking the logo off the front of the T and printing on back only. No relay team this year: eliminate that. The group arrived at the following fees: All 3 races (run, bike and hike) = \$50; family fee = \$100; 1 event only = \$20

Starting times: Little kids 9:30; BLT 10:30.

Jen Hengel left the meeting.

Fall Feast: It was suggested to try Il Luigi's to see whether they cater and what would be the charges for the main course. Whatever is served needs to be basic, but should be tasty. Could there be pasta with choice of sauces? Seafood, chicken, and red sauce were suggested with bread. Stumpy's has catered the appetizers and the liquor in the past; their liquor license has been used. If Il Luigi's will not be able to do this, we could check with Stumpy's for the meal.

Scholarship Application Review: 12 students applied for the six scholarships. Applications were numbered with no student names, only numbers. The six chosen were # 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 & 10.

Trade School Scholarship Application Review: Eight students applied for the five scholarships. Jack Culhane reminded the group that two of the trade scholarship donors did specifically state their scholarship should go to an automotive student. The subcommittee will work to award that scholarship to a student entering the automotive field. Jenny Helgemoe will speak with the seniors to allow any automotive student to apply by Wednesday of next week (April 11).

Agriculture donors also suggested their scholarship would be going to a student choosing an ag-related field. That scholarship will be given to the one vet tech student who applied.

Again, no student names were on the applications. \$500 Scholarships will go to #2, 3, 4 and 5. The automotive scholarship will be awarded if the student applies.

Jack Culhane mentioned that some of the donors would like a letter requesting the donation for tax purposes. Sally Ryman said it has been the practice of our Foundation to send a thank-you letter that can be used for tax purposes. Jack will re-visit the donors to inform them.

It was mentioned that the Tri-County Record published an article this week explaining this new scholarship.

Our discussion will continue after the fund-raisers: do we increase the amount of scholarship dollars for the first year? Do we include recent graduates? Do we allow for two years per student?

Overall the students did well and addressed the essay question(s) this year after revision. It was mentioned that we could possibly add a life goals or future aspirations next year so there would be a paragraph addressing that. Also, we could take off the Header to stream-line the application.

Donna Boyum left the meeting.

Student Representative: The student representative position was created to serve as liaison between the Foundation and students, particularly to encourage student involvement in the Bluff Land Tri and the scholarship drive. Junior Emily Didier is interested. Once approved, she would be invited to the May meeting.

Motion made by John Linder and seconded by Chuck Ehler to name Junior Emily Didier as a student representative. Motion approved. Kathy Wade suggested Sophomore Ricky Buchanan as a representative. Jenny Helgemoe will speak with him. JoAnne Agrimson made the motion; Kathy Wade seconded it to approve Ricky Buchanan as a student representative if he is interested. Motion approved. As discussion ensued concerning the Service Award.

Chair Sally Ryman left the meeting, handing Chair responsibilities to Vice-Chair Claire Olstad.

Approve R-P Foundation for Rushford-Peterson Schools Service Award: At the February meeting, the Foundation board discussed rewarding the student representatives who go above and

beyond the basics of attending our meetings. The award would be a one-time \$250 Service Reward to a Foundation student representative in their senior year who has contributed time and energy to at least two key Foundation fundraising events: the Bluff Land Tri, the scholarship drive, or the Fall Feast. Kathy Wade suggested that the committee vote each year as to whether we will give the award to the representatives who are seniors that year. Rather than a reward or scholarship, members agreed that *award* is a better term for the gift.

Kathy Wade made the motion to have a \$250 service award granted to exiting seniors John Linder seconded the motion.

Discussion was held to clarify this award and the following criteria were suggested:

- award would be given only in the student's senior year
- the intent is that students would use it to further their education, so the award would go to the student's prospective post-secondary school
- the award is not automatic; members must vote each year that there is a student representative who is a senior who is planning to go on to a post-secondary school
- at minimum, the student representative must have actively participated in two major events.

Jenny mentioned that senior awards are May 6. Will we award these scholarships to both students this year? All agreed that these awards should be given at that time.

Chuck Ehler made a motion that Hannah Ledebuhr and Matt Strapp both receive the award; Kathy Wade seconded the motion. Motion carried.

June Vitse moved to adjourn the meeting; Kathy seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:15.