

Board of Directors Meeting

 <p>Rochester Public School Foundation</p>	Date: October 10, 2012	Location John Marshall High School 1510 14th Street NW Rocket Center	
	Members Present (BOLD indicates present)		
	Svaar Vinje	Karen Mathison	Phillipa Hartley
	Becky Gerdes	Mark Schleusner	Melissa Amundsen
	Jenny Hegland	Grace Vriese (Century)	Danielle Nikolai
	Tim Woessnar	Samantha Francis (Mayo)	Dan O'Neil
	Scott Mahle	Roya Bashier (J. Marshall)	Leon Clark
	Amanda Mallinger-Reinartz	Patricia Defrang	Becky Montpetit
	Gabe Koepp	Jim Thompson	

Call to Order

President Mark Schleusner called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

Introduction of Jim Thompson, new board member

Presentation by Mark Kuisle, Activities Director – Century High School

Topic: Creating RPSF Committee focused on Rochester Public Schools Athletics and Fine Arts by combining current plan for new foundation into a committee within RPSF

- Rochester Public Schools Athletics and Fine Arts Activities (current plan for new foundation): Mission “Building a Foundation for our Future”
- Rich history of athletics and fine art however funding is currently difficult
- Other schools of like size offer more opportunities for students
- These offerings keep kids in our district
- High School activities have an educational focus which is not found in non-school programs
- Builds many skills for students, increases GPA, and reduces drop outs.
- 40% of kids are in an activity, many can't afford fees
- Foundation would reduce participation fees for students to participate; \$380,000.00 per year
- Foundation would also focus on Middle School Programs
- Opportunity for a person/family to have naming rights for the foundation and build legacy
- Sub-committee of 6-8 people, self-sustaining with yearly spring granting
- Long term strategy of having bigger presence in the schools
- Sub-committee would oversee the donations and granting, made up of 1 board member and community members with own guidelines and rules.
- Finances – combined; however, new funds created for athletics and fine arts. Athletics fund starting at zero; we already have a fine arts fund that can be combined with this.
- Possibly looking at supporting Robotics as well. Rochester may have regional Robotics competition starting next year.

Date: October 10, 2012	Location John Marshall High School 1510 14th Street NW Rocket Center
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- Other areas of focus: Score boards (advertisement rights tie into this), turf fields.
- This subcommittee would be made up of volunteers like the rest of the board. Long term, there may be some dollars to bring in experts in their field to market goals/achieve certain goals.
- Priorities are children in need. Get more kids involved, increase their success rate, and build relationships within the schools by reducing barriers. Kids are often not comfortable coming forward for scholarships or find themselves unexpectedly in need from family job losses which results in dropping out of activities because of cost.
- Participation is lost at middle school level because middle school sports are not available. Club/youth programs often don't work because kids from families with lower incomes often can't get to the activities (verses in-school sports for which the kids are already there). True of fine arts, band, sports, and so forth. Therefore Rochester Public School participation is way lower than the Twin Cities as well as other schools.
- Huge disparity between kids who take private and kids who have no-where to go for these types of activities.
- Donors are identified who would like to donate to this.
- Some grants have been identified; Nike would put in a track at Willow Creek through a grant.
- Many grants are focused on the twin cities and we would need to see if we could stretch this to Rochester.
- Alumni who are successful in sports may be willing to help with this.
- Question: Definition of activities (does it include math league, chess club, so forth)?
Answer: MN High School League sponsored activities would be starting point and we could consider expanding more later.

Review of September Meeting Minutes – Danielle Nikolai

The September meeting minutes were reviewed.

Note that Minutes are posted on the website – password protected.

Note that minutes will continue to be e-mailed and only a few hard copies brought to the meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes; Becky Gerdes. Seconded; Svaar Vinje. Motion approved.

Review and approval of September Financials – Scott Mahle

<http://www.rpsf.org> --> Site Map --> File Cabinet --> Financial Statements -->

- Reviewed September financials.
- Wine Tasting Line item was mistake and will be removed.
- Bamber Valley Haunted Hallways reimbursement check was never cashed. Jim to follow up.
- Motion to accept September financials; Becky Gerdes. Seconded; Jenny Hegland. Motion Approved.

Resignation of board member Leon Clark – Mark Schleusner

Motion to accept resignation; Jenny Hegland. Seconded; Dani Nikolai. Motion passes.

Date: October 10, 2012	Location John Marshall High School 1510 14th Street NW Rocket Center
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Nomination Committee Update – Becky Gerdes and Melissa Amundsen.

- Regina Seabrook has been contacted, she will serve on the grant committee and has not responded about being a board member. This nomination will be tabled and revisited latter.

Grant committee update – Jenny Hegland

- Presented to district staff development leads on grants, mini grants and Haunted Hallways
- 2 Excellence in action awards submitted
 - Kelsey Jasperson, nominated by Lillian Stewart.
 - Shane Baker , nominated by Katherine Gardner

Motion to approve the purchase of a \$25.00 gift card for each of them; Dani Nikolai. Seconded; Melissa Amundsen. Motion Passes.

- MAD money 2 requests
 - I pod for classroom music such as “counting” songs and “word blend” songs
 - Other for an amount over \$700.00; will let them know that it exceeds the limits
 Motion to approve I pod request; Melissa Amundsen. Seconded; Scott Mahle. Motion passes.
- Grant deadline is Nov 1.
- Grant committee meets Nov. 15 to prioritize grant requests and then summarize requests for the board.
- Special session of RPSF on Wen. Nov. 28 at 7pm at JM to review and approve grants.

Haunted Hallways update –Phillipa Hartley.

- Advertising
 - 3 radio commercials are running on various Cumulus and Clear Channel radio stations.
 - Ticket giveaways are starting to run on the various stations as well.
 - CW commercial continuing to run
 - Everything Hobby has their Haunted Hallways TV commercial running
 - Haunted Hallways interview ran on the Today Show and KTTC noon news
- Businesses Sponsors are set up. Finalizing trick or treat spots, currently have 18, anticipate 25.
- Samantha Francis and a group at Mayo High School stuffed the business flyers in the trick-or-treat bags.
- Volunteers: We have 176 of 470 spots filled. Volunteers who are signed up by Oct 12 are entered in drawing for a free t-shirt. We are still missing some board member signups.
- Auction; Becky Montpetit: process plan is finalized and auction donations are coming in.
- Rene is working on Activity Plaza Party Poster.
- School posters have been distributed.
- Mark Schleusner and Melissa and Erik Amundsen and others have distributed Haunted Hallways posters.

Date: October 10, 2012	Location John Marshall High School 1510 14th Street NW Rocket Center
----------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

- Samantha Frances sorted and distributed fliers for Thursday Folders to Rochester Public School Students.
- Facebook advertising: Please invite all your friends to our facebook event <https://www.facebook.com/events/185641918186284/>

Donations Envelope – Becky Gerdes and Mark Schleusner.

- To send to district staff members (2500 employees, each gets one in their mailbox)
- Cost \$231.79
- Note: Judy McDonald should be told we are doing this.
- Could send perforated form with envelope; they keep one copy so they have receipt immediately and send other back with donation. Action item: Becky Gerdes and Becky Montpetit will be working on this.

Round table – Discussion on Mark Kuisle’s proposal

- Would like Mark Kuisle to be a board member in order to move forward on this
- Would need specific fund for athletics donations
- Motion: Mark Schleusner will draft a proposal and contact Mark Kuisle to move forward with discussions to merge Rochester Public Schools Athletics and Fine Arts as a committee of RPSF; Melissa Amundsen. Second; Tim Woessnar. Motion Passes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:44pm.

Submitted by Danielle Nikolai