

# MERAMEC REGIONAL COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

## VIRTUAL CONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 13, 2021

**Members Present:** Gary Brown (Dent), Jared Niederer (Gasconade), Deborah Henderson (Maries), Vicki Lange (Osage), Wendy Young (Phelps), Randy Becht (Pulaski), Greg Harris (MRCF At-Large), Ray Walden (MRPC At-Large), Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large), and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director)

**Members Absent:** Cindy Merx (Washington)

**Staff Present:** Maria Bancroft, Foundation Coordinator

**Guests Present:** Richard and Jeanne Cavender, and Danielle Tuepker

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Chairman Lange called the meeting to order at approximately 9:33 a.m. and led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** The board reviewed the meeting minutes from March 9, 2021. Prigge made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Niederer. Motion passed.

**MRCF 2021 Scholarships - Review and Selections:** Bancroft introduced Richard and Jeanne Cavender to the board.

**Cavender Scholarship for Public Service:** The board reviewed 7 applications submitted to select two recipients for \$750 per recipient. The Cavender's shared their thoughts on the candidates who did not meet the minimum requires and their top three picks. After discussion, Young made a motion to award Amy Chen and Luke Morrison the scholarship with Isabella Knaack as the alternate, seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

**Cole-Mahan Scholarship:** The board reviewed 2 applications submitted to select one recipient for \$500. There was discussion that both applicants did not meet all the criteria for the scholarship. As a result, Prigge made a motion to select Hunter Poole for the scholarship and Jasmine Cassidy as the alternate contingent upon approval from the fund donor due to the criteria issue, seconded by Harris. Motion passed. Bancroft will share the applications and the board's recommendation to the donor for this year's award.

**Claude and Irene Morgan Scholarship:** The board reviewed 14 applications submitted to select one recipient for \$500. After the board's discussion, Harris made a motion to select Oluwamisayo Mary Ologun as the recipient and Emilee Ann Marie Quick as the alternate, seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

**Koch-Lange Scholarship:** The board reviewed 6 applications submitted to select one recipient for \$500. After the board's discussion, Vogt made a motion to select Rose Baxter as the recipient and Jessi Jo Schweer as the alternate, seconded by Becht. Motion passed.

**MRCF Coover Recovery Grant:** The board discussed to postpone the review and selections for the grant to allow more time for review. There are 13 applications submitted for the grant. As a result, Young made a motion to postpone and reschedule a board meeting in two weeks to allow board members time to review each application and provide additional questions to applicants, seconded by Harris. Motion passed. Staff will coordinate the day and time for the meeting very soon.

**Newburg Community Endowment Fund Application:** The board reviewed an application submitted for funding to benefit the Newburg Community Revitalization Program Group with materials and labor to fence in the community park area. After the board's review and discussion, Prigge made a motion to approve the application request, seconded by Harris. Motion passed.

**MRCF Fund Balance Report:** Bancroft presented the current fund balance report as of March 31, 2021. There are currently 51 funds with a total portfolio balance of \$3,443,233.55. Prigge mentioned to the group that there are inaccuracies with some funds on the interest earned and service fees applied. CFO is addressing these issues to resolve and provide an accurate reflection on each fund moving forward. During the current fiscal year, there are 3 new funds established: 1) Dalton Newton Memorial Scholarship Fund; 2) Koch-Lange Family Scholarship Fund; and 3) Woessner Foundation. Bancroft will email the board a copy of the March fund balance report.

**Comments for the Good of the Order :** The next board meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 11, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

**MRCF Goals and Action Plan Updates:** Chairman Lange asked for community and goal updates from each board member. Prigge updated the group that Maries R2 Schools Foundation committee reviewed 16 applications out of a class size of 56 students for scholarships. Approximately \$37,100 was awarded to students who applied, and each student received at least one scholarship. The range of scholarship awards were beginning at \$400 up to \$5,500. In addition, Prigge talked about the Maries R2 Community Scholarship annual fundraiser changes. Due to COVID, they did not host a dinner event as in the past. Instead, the organization distributed fundraising letters to make donations to the cause and resulted in total donations of \$1,500 to go towards the scholarship.

**Closing Remarks & Adjournment:** Being no further business, Becht made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:40 a.m., seconded by Harris. Motion passed.

**Approved by the board on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021**

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**Vicki Lange, Chair**

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**Attested by Secretary or other MRCF Officer**