**Meramec Regional Community Foundation**

**meeting minutes**

Wednesday, February 20, 2024

**Members Present:** Ashley Harris (Maries) by Zoom, Tony Hayden (Osage) by Zoom, Randy Becht (Pulaski), Richard Cavender (MRCF At-Large), Steve Vogt (MRPC At-Large), and Bonnie Prigge (MRPC Executive Director).

**Members Absent:** John Craig (Crawford), Jared Niederer (Gasconade), and Amy Pendleton (Phelps).

**Staff Present:** Danielle Tuepker

**Call to order and Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice Chairman Cavender called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and led the group with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Approval of Minutes:** The board reviewed the meeting minutes from October 11, 2023. Becht made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

**MRCF Community Grant Making Fund:** After discussing the 9 applications, Hayden made a motion to accept Bourbon Economic Development Group’s (Economic Development) project for a $750 grant, seconded by Harris. Motion passed.

Vogt made a motion to accept the Hope Alliance of Missouri Friday Backpack (Community Development) project for a $750 grant, seconded by Hayden. Motion passed.

Motion made by Hayden to accept the Special Learning Center’s Specialized Traveling Therapy Equipment as an alternate if the Bourbon Economic Development Group project does not go through but they have to address the questions of service area and how many in area benefit, seconded by Vogt. Motion passed.

Motion made by Vogt for City of Owensville – Parks & Recreation Department Tribute Bench Project as an alternate if the Hope Alliance of Missouri Friday Backpack project doesn’t go through, seconded by Harris. Since they only requested $350, if by default they get the funds, they have the option of receiving the full $750 if they prove more need or the remaining dollars would be held for next year. Motion passed.

**MRCF Fund Balance Report:** Prigge presented the current fund balance report as of December 31, 2024. There are 51 funds with a total of $4,811,868.69 in those funds in MRCF’s portfolio. There is $57,011.02 spendable dollars for grant making and scholarships.

**Phelps County Community Foundation:** Prigge and Cavender reported the newly formed foundation has hit the ground running, and fundraising has started with a kick-off luncheon to introduce the group to the community.

**Scholarship Update:** Prigge gave an update on the scholarship portal process. Students only need to put in basic information one time and then they only need to answer or submit individualized requirements to specific scholarships.

**Planning for Invite a Friend to Lunch on March 12:**  The board discussed the program (inviting CFO director as featured speaker, PCCF member to participate, and someone from MRPC to explain MRPC and its entities) and inviting prospective board members for vacancies in Dent and Washington Counties and one MRPC At-Large.

**Change in April Meeting Date:** After discussion, the April meeting where scholarships will be selected will be held on April 24 at 9:30 a.m. at MRPC.

**MRCF Goals and Action Plan Updates:** Prigge stated that new updated brochures will be made available to hand out. MCR2 School Fundraiser to honor educators with 50+ years of service set for April 28 at the Belle-Bland Community Center, in Belle.

**Closing Remarks & Adjournment:**

Invite a Friend Luncheon – March 12, 2024, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Scholarships Committee Meeting – April 24, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Being no further business, Vogt made a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:30 a.m., seconded by Becht. Motion passed.

**Approved by the board on , 2024.**

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**Chair or Vice Chair**

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**Attested by Secretary or other MRCF Officer**